

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Holy... Enter the Saint again, after 56 years: Profile looks at the long career of Leslie Charteris and his apparently indestructible hero, whose fiftieth adventure appears next week.



Alliance Britain spends £25m a year keeping a garrison in Belize, but for how long? And how will British actions affect stability in Central America?

Printed... The Books Page gazes into the future and into the oceans, and features aristocrats and old boy networks.

Circuit British football clubs have done well on the European trail again. Can they sustain their challenge?

Spain and Portugal get go-ahead

Negotiations on the entry of Spain and Portugal into the EEC can now begin in earnest. The main obstacle until now, ways of marketing agricultural products from the Mediterranean, has been unexpectedly removed.

NHS spending '£25m down'

Health service spending is down by £25m on last year, health authorities have told the Government. They say patients will suffer if there are any more cuts.

Airport pact

Leaders of Lebanon's Government and opposition factions have agreed, after weeks of squabbling, to discuss the country's political future at Beirut airport.

Waldorf case

The jury in the Steven Waldorf shooting case was told that the issue was whether the policeman accused had acted in self-defence within the law.

Late trains

Forty-two per cent of British Rail's Inter-City trains were late in June, the Central Transport Consultative Committee said.



Agca relives it

Traffic in central Rome stopped for three hours as Mehmet Ali Agca, serving a life sentence for shooting Pope, reenacted his assassination attempt.

US spy case

The man accused of selling American missile secrets to Poland is being held without bail.

Leader page, 13 Letters: On God as a person, from Professor R. Sharrock, and others; Mr Parkinson and The Times; from Mrs E. Sowers, and others, cheese in France, from Lady Henderson.

Table with 4 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Business, Sport, TV & Radio, Court, Weather, Diary. Includes page numbers for each section.

Navy orders new generation of anti-sub frigates

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has adopted a new class of frigate - the Type 23 - to be the backbone of its anti-submarine surface force until the end of the century. It has been designed to operate with exceptional quiet and be virtually invisible to attacking missiles.

TYPE 23 FRIGATE Length on waterline, 123 metres Beam, 15 metres Standard displacement, 3,000 tonnes Max speed, about 28 knots Cruising speed, 17 knots Range, 8,000 nautical miles

ARMAMENTS One 4.5in gun; vertical launch Sea Wolf missile system; surface-to-surface weapon; eight sea-skimming missiles of a type still to be decided; one helicopter; four torpedo tubes.

The first frigate is expected to be ordered next year at a cost of about £100 million from Yarrow Shipbuilders on Clydeside. From about the end of 1985, further Type 23s will be ordered from British shipyards on the basis of competitive tendering.

From then on, the Navy expects to be ordering Type 23s at the rate of about three a year. There are expected ultimately to be between eight and 12 ships of this design built, but they will be followed by a so-called "Batch 2", a development of the Type 23 in the 1990s.



Artist's impression of Navy's new submarine killer.

The decision to go ahead with Type 23 was announced yesterday by Mr Ian Stewart, Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, before moving to take up his new appointment as

its prey and its noise will not obstruct its own sonar systems as they listen for enemy submarines.

It has been carefully designed to produce a low profile and the minimum possible radar echo. The Navy hopes it will prove virtually undetectable by attacking missiles.

It will carry a large helicopter, such as the Sea King, or its eventual successor, the EH101, capable of making long-range attacks on submarines using the new Stingray torpedo.

The vertically launched Sea Wolf missile will be its defence against surface-skimming missiles, and it will also have its own sea-skimming missile as the main weapon against other surface vessels. A 4.5in gun is mounted for shore bombardment.

Design has been influenced by the Falklands experience. Among the lessons were the need for defence against surface skimmers and for greatly improved ways of preventing smoke from spreading if the ship is hit.

The frigates will have a standard displacement of 3,000 tonnes, a length of 123 metres at the waterline, and a beam of 15 metres.

The £100m cost compares with more than £130m for the Type 22 frigates being built at present. It will also be cheaper, says a crew of about 143, to operate than Type 22, which has roughly 100 more.

The decision to go ahead with Type 23 constitutes final defeat for a small firm of naval

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Reagan men set the ball rolling

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan re-election campaign is off and running but the President is not. Although Mr Reagan has approved the formation of a re-election committee, which legally makes him a candidate in next year's presidential race, he has now indicated that he will not finally make up his mind on whether or not to seek a second term until the end of the year, possibly even next January.

One reason for the delay is that the President believes he will bow out of the race as late as possible in order to ensure that Vice-President George Bush is assured of the Republican nomination, thereby preventing an unseemly scramble.

Some observers believe the delay is a sign that Mr Reagan is having serious doubts about running again. They predict he will bow out of the race as late as possible in order to ensure that Vice-President George Bush is assured of the Republican nomination, thereby preventing an unseemly scramble.

However, the President's most senior aides and Republican Party leaders all seem convinced that he will be their candidate and that the delay in his formal announcement is purely tactical.

They are proceeding as though he has already crossed the starting line. A "Reagan-Bush '84 Committee" office has been opened on Capitol Hill and a campaign staff has been appointed which bears a strong resemblance to the team which engineered President Reagan's 1980 victory.

It is headed by Senator Paul Laxalt, the President's closest confidant in Congress and general chairman of the Republican Party. Mr Drew Lewis, Continued on back page, col 1

Government likely to overspend by £1bn

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Heavy state borrowing in the first half of this financial year means that the Government has little chance of meeting its £8.2 billion borrowing target for 1983-84, despite the emergency measures announced by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, in July.

City experts believe that the overshoot could amount to more than £1 billion. Official figures released yesterday show that the public sector - central government, town halls and state industries - borrowed £3.2 billion between June and September, bringing the total for the first half of 1983-84 to £7 billion.

Government finances are normally much more healthy in the second half of the year, as the tax-gathering season gets into its stride. In addition, most of the impact of the Chancellor's £1 billion package of spending cuts and asset sales has yet to be felt.

But few City analysts believe that the Government will be able to keep public borrowing down to only £1.2 billion in the second half of the year, and most are predicting an overshoot of between £1 billion and £1.5 billion.

A new Treasury forecast will be published at the time of the Chancellor's autumn statement, probably next month. The unpublished summer forecast, which predicted a public sector borrowing requirement of more than £1 billion, was the main reason why the Chancellor decided on emergency action in July.

The chief problem has been a substantial overrun by government departments on spending, which has been growing nearly twice as fast as predicted.

The Chancellor bopped his swift move to curb spending which have found on only a financial but also a psychological impact on departments to keep within budget. But the latest figures on central government spending suggests that the measures have yet to bite.

Public borrowing in the second half of the financial year is typically about half that in the first. From that must be subtracted £500m of spending cuts, and about £650m of asset sales still to come. This could include sales of shares in Cable and Wireless if the scheduled sell-off of the British Gas Corporation's former oil interests fails to raise the target sum.

Revenues too are buoyant, especially from North Sea oil which was expected to bring in about £750m more than predicted at Budget time. But this still leaves the Government well over target.

Man charged with murder of two women

Four children found dead in bedroom

A man was due to appear before magistrates at Aylesbury this morning, charged with the murder of two women in the Hampshire town in May last year.

Mrs Margaret Johnson, aged 66, and Mrs Ann Lee, aged 44, had suffered multiple stab wounds during an attack while walking their dogs. The accused man, aged 21, was arrested yesterday in Bournemouth.

Four children aged two to eight were found dead in a bedroom of a house in Dingwall, near Inverness, yesterday. Police said a man was found seriously injured.

"The matter is being treated as a crime and a full report will be made to the procurator fiscal", they said.

The injured man, who was taken to hospital, was not named.

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Royal patron: Princess Caroline of Monaco opened a new intensive care unit at the Princess Grace Hospital in Marylebone yesterday in her new role as patron.

Gummer is given pay rise for same job

By Anthony Berins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister awarded Mr John Selwyn Gummer, the Conservative Party chairman, a 19 per cent pay rise yesterday and a new ministerial title for extra duties at the Department of Employment.

Downing Street announced that Mr Gummer had been promoted from under-secretary to minister of state, increasing his ministerial salary from £14,460 to £19,410. He will continue to receive the same £11,000 parliamentary allowance.

It was also stated that his department responsibilities would be unchanged, although there has been some suggestion from within the department that since he became party chairman his official workload diminished markedly.

Some senior Conservative backbench sources criticized the decision, saying privately that party office should not be rewarded from public funds.

There was some embarrassment in Whitehall yesterday when questions were put about the taxpayer paying for a party appointment. That was not lessened by the counter argument that as party chairman he might be asked to attend Cabinet, and that Mr Gummer had the extra responsibility of ensuring liaison between Government and party.

Downing Street confirmed yesterday that when Mr Cecil Parkinson served as party chairman and Cabinet minister, first as Paymaster-General and then, additionally, as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, he drew no ministerial salary.

It was also disclosed that any legislation on the trade unions' political levy would be done by Mr Alan Clark, the remaining parliamentary under-secretary at the Department of Employment.

Mr Gummer's new appointment was one of five ministerial adjustments announced yesterday after Sunday's mini-shuffle of the Cabinet in the wake of Mr Parkinson's resignation.

The new Financial Secretary to the Treasury, replacing Mr Nicholas Ridley, who has been made Secretary of State for Transport, is Mr John Moore.

He has been replaced as Economic Secretary to the Treasury by Mr Ian Stewart, the former Under Secretary for

Supporters to fight on Yorkshire stand by Boycott decision

By Peter Ball

Geoffrey Boycott will not play for Yorkshire next season. Yesterday's meetings of the Yorkshire Cricket and General committees at Headingley, Leeds, reaffirmed the decision taken two weeks ago not to offer Boycott a new contract.

The decision brought a sharp reaction from the supporters of Boycott on and off the committees. Detective Sergeant Sid Fielden, Boycott's closest ally on the committee, said: "It is a triumph for human folly. They are jealous men, whose jealousy of one man has turned into hatred. They are inhuman men who have denied a man the opportunity of playing cricket for another testimonial season, and they are foolish men who have refused to heed the wishes of members of the club."

Another Boycott supporter, the Bradford businessman Robert Slicer, added: "They have committed the county not to reconstruction but to its destruction."

Speaking from his home in Woolley, near Wakefield, Boycott himself was more guarded, expressing his thanks for the support he had received and his good wishes to the new captain David Bairstow. He added: "I can only say again that I wish I had been given a chance to play out my testimonial year before leaving on a happy note."

The committee had been called to consider the decision in the light of the wave of protests throughout Yorkshire in support of Boycott. The cricket committee, meeting in the morning, unanimously rejected any reversal. After a meeting lasting two hours and half the General Committee concurred by a majority of 18-8, a swing of only one vote from the original meeting.

In a statement issued by the club, the committee said: "The committee are most anxious to ensure that the young players now coming into the side should not be subject to a background of discussion and discord". It added: "The two committees are convinced that the necessity to build team spirit must override the interest of any one individual..."

The statement pointed out that the option of giving Boycott a one year contract followed by his retirement had been ruled out by the player himself.

This is unlikely to satisfy Boycott's supporters. The members of the committee supporting him held a press conference in the offices of Radio Aire after the committee statement, and plans are going ahead for a signature gathering meeting at Ossett on Sunday to convene a special general meeting of the club.

Hawk wins Knesset approval

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The hardline character of the new Israeli Government of Mr Yitzhak Shamir was reinforced yesterday when Mr Yigal Cohen-Ornad was approved as Finance Minister by a comfortable 60-48 vote in the Knesset.

The new minister takes over with Israel suffering its gravest economic crisis and the rate of inflation expected soon to exceed 150 per cent. One of his first tasks will be to try to restore public confidence in the country's financial institutions.

Only hours before the vote was taken, Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, said that Israel's defence spending, already some 23.3 per cent of the national budget, will have to go on rising. Liked risk, page 6

Eccentric's fortune may ease Chancellor's burden

By Richard Evans

An eccentric old Irish woman with a penchant for stylish living and a ruthless flair for the Stock Exchange is about to ease the Chancellor of the Exchequer's financial burden by £670,000.

Mrs Katharine Nathan, who enjoyed a regular chauffeured-driven ride to her favourite London restaurant and took delivery of luxury cosmetics and a weekly food hamper from Fortnum and Mason, died last September in her small rented Hampstead flat where she earned a fortune through buying and selling shares.

will die the next day," she told acquaintances.

But now, more than a year after her death, during which a genealogist and lawyers in London and Dublin have made world wide inquiries in an attempt to unravel her mysterious past, no relation has been traced.

"There are a very large number of shareholdings which are probably worth at least £600,000", Mr Donald Green of the Treasury Solicitor's Department confirmed yesterday. "I think it is the biggest sum involving intestacy we have ever had."

Just when and where Mrs Nathan was born is unclear, and that lies at the heart of the difficulty in finding relatives. Her death certificate says she

was born in Ireland on November 18, 1896. But those meagre facts, obtained from her bank passport, contradicted other documents and celebrated occasions in her life.

In her latter years she was cared for by nurses from a private agency and they recalled a birthday party in the mid-1970s when she claimed to be 90. When she married in 1917, her marriage certificate detailed her age as 24.

The certificate gave her maiden name as O'Shea, daughter of John Lee O'Shea, but Mr Alan Furling, a Dublin solicitor who has a thick file on the case, believes that is a pseudonym.

What is certain is that after reaching London she met Mr Gilbert Nathan, an Australian businessman temporarily attached to the War Office, and they married during the First World War.

After living around Hampstead for several years the couple moved close to Maidenhead where Mr Nathan died in 1942. They had no children and Mrs Nathan,

after inheriting £60,000, returned to Hampstead.

"She started playing with stocks and shares and eventually it became her main occupation. It was the only thing she was interested in", Mr Peter Birchwood, a London-based genealogist told The Times.

Mr Birchwood has spent four months trying to trace a relative to inherit the fortune. His inquiries took him to Comenara after a search of birth records in Dublin failed to unearth a certificate.

Eora a Roman Catholic, Mrs Nathan almost certainly had brothers and sisters, but where they or their relations are, remains a mystery.

Lloyd's loss hits tennis stars

By Andrew Cornelius

Tennis stars Mr Mark Cox and Miss Virginia Wade and more than 200 other wealthy "names" stand to lose an average of £60,000 each after the Lloyd's of London insurance syndicate which they backed ceased trading.

Under the terms which govern membership of the Lloyd's market, the names stand to share losses of £13.1m incurred by marine insurance underwriting syndicate 895 by the time it ceased trading at the end of last year.

The losses have been uncovered after an investigation into the syndicate by Spicer & White (Underwriting Agencies) which managed the syndicate's affairs.

Mr Peter Pepper, who undertook the investigation, yesterday blamed the losses on a combination of overwriting of business by the syndicate above the limits predetermined by the Lloyd's authorities and on poor underwriting.

In particular, he said, the syndicate had switched the emphasis of its insurance underwriting business, an area where claims are settled over longer periods of time, but where competition has been fierce in recent years.

The combination of low premiums brought about by intense competition and a poor claims record led to the huge losses which eventually forced the closure of the syndicate.

Mr Cox said last night: "It has been clear for some time that this syndicate had suffered a substantial amount of losses. You go into this sort of situation with your eyes open and realizing there are risks."

Mr Cox, like other names, who have to prove wealth of £100,000 before being allowed to invest in the market, has spread his risk and is a member of other syndicates.

The losses incurred by 895 are the highest recorded by an individual syndicate at Lloyd's since the £20m collapse of the Sasse syndicate in 1974.

The problems at Sasse were also caused by the combination of taking on poor insurance risks, in the Harlem area of New York, and overtrading.

The investigation into the affairs of Syndicate 895 shows that, despite the worsening underwriting climate, the number of members risking their wealth with the syndicate increased from 116 to 235 between 1979 and 1982.

It shows that for each £20,000 line of business transacted, names will lose £20,000.

The problems at syndicate 895 are the latest to tarnish the image of Lloyd's. The insurance market has been rocked by a series of scandals which has prompted investigations by the Department of Trade and the police into the affairs of Minnet Holdings and Alexander Howden, two of the leading Lloyd's insurance broking firms.

Advertisement for Chanel Gentleman's Shaving Foam. Includes an image of the product can and the text: 'Entente cordiale CHANEL FOR GENTLEMEN'.

Waldorf jury told to decide if detectives acted in self-defence

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

The jury trying two detectives for the shooting of Mr Steven Waldorf was given a warning yesterday that the issue before it was not whether police should be armed or whether someone had to pay for the shooting but whether the policeman had acted in self-defence within the law.

Summing up at the Central Criminal Court, Mr Justice Croom-Johnson said that the shooting last January, when Mr Waldorf was mistaken for a dangerous fugitive, had occurred "when there was and still is a great debate in this country about law and order".

But the eight women and four men were not being asked to decide "whether the police should be armed or whether the general policy of crime enforcement and law and order is being satisfactorily dealt with in this country now". Nor were they being asked to decide the changes in a state of mind that "oh, the police have shot the wrong man. Somebody must pay. Someone was at fault".

Constable Jardine faces charges which both relate to shooting Mr Waldorf. The judge told the jury: "It is both good law and good sense that a man who is attacked may defend himself. He may do, but only do, what is reasonably necessary for that purpose."

"If it is necessary to kill in self-defence the law recognizes that possibility" he said. The law also recognized the need sometimes for a pre-emptive strike to avoid danger.

The judge said that the state of mind of the policeman and their intentions were the facts on which the jury had to decide. If the prosecution had proved that the officers had not acted in reasonable self-defence the jury would have to decide what was their intention.

The judge said that once the jury accepted that the

Mr Justice Croom-Johnson: Began summing up.

Constables had made genuine mistakes, they must put themselves in the detectives' position, believing that David Martin was in the car.

"If you think it a moment of sudden and unexpected peril that [the] person only did what he thought was necessarily honest and instinctive then you would think it very strong evidence that only reasonable self-defence does not apply."

The judge said that Martin's background, criminal record and recent history were of great importance.

He told the jury that it was not so much concerned with the detectives' firearms training as with their training on when and when not to shoot.

"The Metropolitan Police rules for the use of firearms should normally be obeyed by police. But because someone may occasionally step outside the rule, it does not mean to say the law of the land in relation to self-defence does not apply."

Earlier, Mr Michael Corkery QC, for Constable Finch, of Croxley Green, Hertfordshire, said that his client had laboured under a nightmare for the past nine months. Shocked after the shooting, he all answered investigators frankly.

Mr John Matthew QC, for Constable Jardine, said that the north-west London, said that the detective was "an ordinary copper" who wanted to continue with his "unspectacular but worthy career".

The trial was adjourned until today, when the judge will complete his summing-up.

MP's plan for contract dialysis

By Richard Dowden

Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex South-east, has urged Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, to act to alleviate the plight of National Health Service kidney patients.

In a letter to the minister Sir Bernard asks him to introduce a system of "contractual dialysis", which would involve private companies providing dialysis to reduce the strain on health service resources.

According to Mrs Elizabeth Ward, founder and president of the British Kidney Patient Association, at least 2,000 people suffer from renal failure die every year.

"With the very severe cuts in this area of the health service the number could rise by a further 55%", she said. Her organization campaigns to provide dialysis for all patients who suffer from renal failure.

"I am convinced that a system of contractual dialysis would save many lives and at the same time release valuable NHS resources for other projects", Sir Bernard said.

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Appeal for £12m to fight child abuse

A national campaign to raise £12m next year to combat child abuse was launched on Loodoo yesterday, backed by Princess Margaret and the Prime Minister.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children says that a baby each week from injuries inflicted by parents. Many more are maimed. It is marking its 184th centenary by launching the campaign from which it intends to set up a national network of 60 child protection teams over the next five years. The first will open by the end of 1984.

Dr Alan Gilmore, director of the society, said: "In this way we shall be able to respond even more effectively to children and parents in need". The teams will bring together the society's services and expertise, including inspectors, family centres, play groups and special units to work within communities.

Dr Gilmore said that 50,000 babies a year suffered physical or mental torture, gross neglect, sexual abuse or emotional starvation.

The appeal will be headed by the Duke of Westminster and backed by 60 local committees. In a message of support, Princess Margaret, the society's president, said: "It seems incredible that in this country still thousands of children every year suffer from neglect, physical or mental cruelty... of are just unloved". Mrs Thatcher said: "It is profoundly sad that we still need a society to prevent cruelty to children. But we do."

A publicity campaign will be launched in the new year. Poster sites will carry pictures of battered children from 100 years ago and today. The message reads: "The faces change. The bruises don't".

The society is spending £250,000 on advertising and mailing, in spite of a financial crisis in which it has spent £2m from reserves in the past three years.

At a regional launching of the appeal in London, Mr Neil Todd, head of a "battered baby" unit in the Fallowfield district, said reports of the sexual-abuse of children have shown an "extremely worrying" increase over the past year.



Taking care of killers

A kestrel perching on the gloved hand of Jade Hare, aged three, whose parents run the Raptor Centre at Chilham Castle near Canterbury (Stephen Goodwin writes).

Founded in early 1977, the centre is devoted solely to the conservation of birds of prey.

By giving demonstrations, flying birds free in the castle grounds, and receiving school visits, Eddie and Liz Hare have to arouse more interest in birds of prey. The centre offers a 24-hour rescue service for sick or injured birds. If they are too badly injured to be released later the Hares house them in pairs and release any offspring. (Photograph: John Manning).

BBC to unveil Radio 4 changes

By David Hewson

The BBC will unveil some of its long-awaited plans to reshape Radio 4 today and hope that they will quell fears that the station is on the verge of going downmarket in search of larger audiences.

Mr David Hatch, the former head of Radio 2, who took over as controller of Radio 4 in June, is expected to announce a modest reshuffle of the station's evening schedules. BBC executives have also been testing pilot programmes designed to extend the morning run of popular material such as *Start The Week* until midday.

It is understood that from next January, Mr Hatch hopes to introduce new schedules for Radio 4's evening programmes. *Kaleidoscope* will start at 9.45pm, 15 minutes later than at present, partly to enable it to carry reviews of theatre premieres. *A Book at Bedtime* will be brought forward 45 minutes to 10.15pm. *The Financial World Tonight*, which is now a self-contained 15-minute programme, will become part of *The World Tonight*, which will be extended from 30 minutes to an hour starting at 10.30pm.

Mr Hatch is expected to confirm the late-night changes today and to talk about the station's programme philosophy in his first press conference since taking on the job. But fears that Radio 4 might become an all news and current affairs station, as once rumoured, are unlikely to be confirmed by today's announcements.

BBC sources indicated that Mr Hatch's comments are only the beginning of the reshaping of Radio 4, however. The corporation is looking closely at its popular early morning *Today* programme and considering extending the current affairs and chat format until midday.

Richard Baker, the former newsreader, who now presents *Omnibus* and Radio 4's *Start The Week*, is due to record a three-hour pilot show for the new morning spot on Saturday.

Open door led to Woolworth theft spree

A woman who found the back door of a Woolworth store left open after closing time and stole goods worth more than £750 was given a six-month jail sentence suspended for two years yesterday.

Mrs Patricia Millar, aged 39, the mother of five children, pleaded guilty to stealing from the Colechester store.

The town's magistrates were told that Mrs Millar, of Dilbridge Road, Colechester, took six nightdresses, five scarves, a housecoat, two dressing gowns, five body-warmers, a jacket, two skirts, eight dresses, 84 items of baby clothing, four pairs of sandals, a torch, 10 shirts, five tea-shirts, 88 pairs of socks, two shopping trolleys, a sports bag and four shopping bags.

The court was told that word got round that the back door of the store was open on Saturday August 13 and goods worth £9,500 vanished. A total of six people were charged.

£1,000 fine for fare dodger

A company director who altered his season ticket and fraudulently used it for a year was fined a total of £1,000 by Croydon magistrates yesterday.

Reginald Booker, aged 41, of Pound Hill, Crawley, West Sussex, admitted altering a season ticket, falsely using it, and dishonestly obtaining a rail journey between Three Bridges and Victoria. He asked for 132 similar offences to be taken into consideration.

Greyhounds to be put down

About 40 greyhounds will have to be put down because of the closure of the Gloucester greyhound stadium this weekend, Mr Sam Ray, a trainer, said yesterday. He said it would be impossible to find new kennels for all the 150 hounds kept at the stadium and some would have to be destroyed.

The stadium will close after Saturday night's race meeting because the site is to be developed

Plastic pound in the pocket

The Isle of Man's plastic £1 notes, which are virtually indestructible, go into circulation in six weeks. The Manx Treasury wants to retain £1 notes just as Britain plans to replace them with £1 coins.

The green plastic notes, in a material called Bradvek, are expected to last 15 years

Girl's killer gets life sentence

Robert Astley, aged 24, was jailed for life by Birmingham Crown Court yesterday for the murder of Denise Bradbury, aged two, last May.

Astley, of Finchley Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham, had pleaded guilty to murdering the girl whose body was found in a car on wasteland. As he was sentenced a scuffle broke out between the girl's family and relatives of the accused.

Peugeot's hopes on 'supermini'

By Clifford Webb

A new Peugeot "supermini" which its makers hope will restore the flagging United Kingdom fortunes of the largest French motor manufacturer is among several new cars making their British debuts at Motorfair the dealer-orientated car show which opens in Earls Court, London, tomorrow.

The Peugeot 205 is already a success in France having captured 6 per cent of the market in its first nine months and replaces the 104 which failed to make any impression on British motorists.

Just over 12ft long compared with Metro's 11ft 2in and the Escort's 13ft 4in, the 205 will straddle two car categories. A new type of rear suspension provides excellent roadholding and a comfortable ride.



French challenger: The Peugeot 205 GL

Also making its British debut is the latest offering from Hyundai of South Korea which entered the United Kingdom market only 18 months ago with the smaller Pony. The new Hyundai Stellar is aimed at the 1.6 medium saloon market and is very much in the Ford Cortina mould with rear-wheel drive and generous passenger and luggage room.

BMW is showing what it claims to be the world's first dual personality automatic gearbox. A small switch on the gearchange console selects high gear ratios for economy or lower "sports" ratios for fast acceleration. It will cost £315 and will be available on top range 6 and 7 series BMWs.

New to Britain is the BMW 318i which uses a fuel injected version of the BMW 316s 1800cc engine. It is expected to sell well in the company car sector.

Rights group concern over action on kerb crawlers

From Our Own Correspondent

The National Council for Civil Liberties said yesterday that it was concerned about the police's action against kerb crawlers in Nottingham's vice district which led to 13 men being bound over in the sum of £100 to keep the peace for a year.

The council said: "We are concerned for the rights of women not to be molested or solicited as they walk along the streets. But we are also worried about the blanket method in which the law was applied in order to catch a large number of people."

The council said there was a risk of innocent people being caught in such an operation. The men were summoned under a law which dates back to 1361 that was designed to protect "merchants and others passing along the highways of the realm from being disturbed".

Nottingham's vice-squad disclosed yesterday that a further 30 men are to appear before the city's magistrates to face charges under the 600-year-old Justice of the Peace Act.

The police are receiving the backing of residents in Hyson Green, who are collecting car numbers and sending them to police headquarters.

Inspector Keith Newman, head of the squad, said he favoured a new law to tackle men who seek prostitutes in cars or on foot. At present we are having to take action under one of the oldest laws on the statute book to deal with one of the oldest professions."

In Sheffield, the police said they may follow the lead taken by Nottingham to clear streets of prostitutes.

Mr Robert Goslin, assistant chief constable (operations), said: "The police action [in Nottingham] appears to show certain moves can be made against kerb crawlers. We shall be looking at the legal implications and will urgently review the situation with a view to taking similar actions."

Lock up glue, MP says

Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, appealed yesterday to hardware stores to make it harder for young people to obtain potentially dangerous brands of glue.

"It is impossible to ban glue from shops, but it is entirely reasonable to ask shopkeepers to keep any brand which is known to be potentially dangerous locked up or behind the counter," he said.

Mr Janner has been approached in the past few weeks by several parents whose children have become addicted. More than 100 young people died because of glue sniffing in 1981 and 1982.

The zoo is now looking for a second baby elephant as a companion for Dilberta. "We had to keep Pole Pole away from the baby because she would almost certainly have killed it", Mr James said. "She was a dangerous animal and has knocked several people down."

Marital stress 'a major cause of absenteeism'

Marriage breakdowns are causing industry and commerce incalculable losses, Sir Anthony Jolliffe, the Lord Mayor of London, said yesterday.

Speaking yesterday at the launching of a £1m appeal for the Marriage Research Centre, Sir Anthony said that marital stress caused a large proportion of the millions of days lost through sickness. "It makes great sense for industry and commerce to support the study of the causes of marriage breakdown", he said.

The Marriage Research Centre, based at the Central Middlesex Hospital, conducts research into marriage and provides a clinical service to couples experiencing marriage problems.

One problem is that doctors writing notes for people absent from work through marital problems put down depression, nervous exhaustion or stress as the reason for absence, so statistics are difficult to collate.

Elephant's death prompts zoo policy review

By Thomson Prentice

A lethal injection finally put Pole Pole, the 17-year-old African elephant at Regent's Park Zoo, out of her misery on Monday night. But she had never been a very happy animal.

"She may just have decided to lie down and die", according to Mr David Jones, assistant director of London Zoo. Whatever the reason, once Pole Pole went down, no amount of pushing and pulling with winches and slings could get her up again.

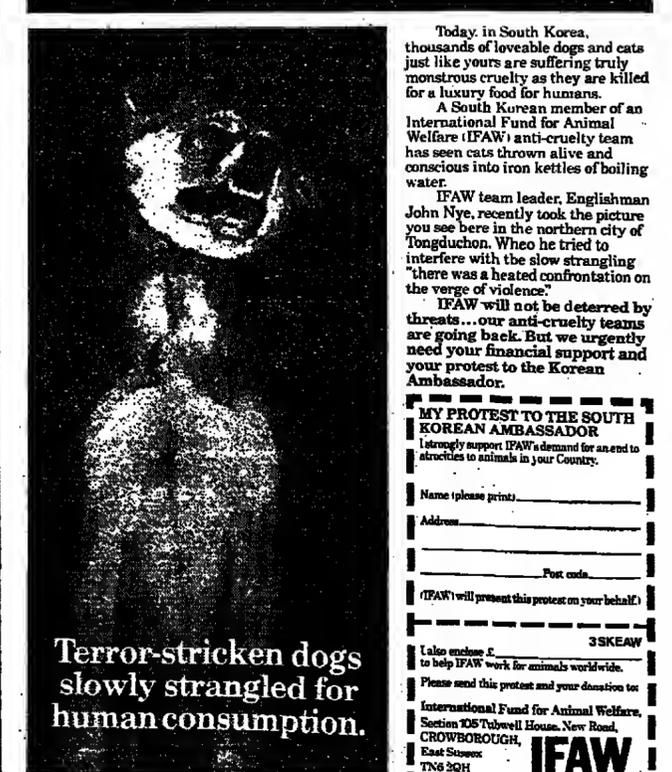
Orphaned as a baby by a cull in Kenya, her potential mates massacred by poachers, Pole Pole achieved brief love and affection as the star of a film. Her name in Swahili means "Slowly, Slowly", and it was in *An Elephant Called Slowly* that she appeared with Virginia McKenna in 1967.

Pole Pole came to Regent's Park in 1968, but Mr Jones said she had always been a very different animal "and could be a dangerous one". Miss McKenna heard yesterday when she heard the news; her husband, Mr Bill Travers, reacted angrily.

"In the last two years the great concern of people who went to see her was her miserable condition", he said. "This does raise the issue whether animals like this can really be kept successfully in captivity."

He and Miss McKenna had been campaigning to have Pole Pole returned to her natural habitat in Africa. But Mr Jones said the zoo had made inquiries and concluded that no suitable place in Africa could be found for her.

How you can help stop this cruelty.



Terror-stricken dogs slowly strangled for human consumption.

Today, in South Korea, thousands of loveable dogs and cats just like yours are suffering truly monstrous cruelty as they are killed for a luxury food for humans. A South Korean member of an International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) anti-cruelty team has seen cats thrown alive and conscious into iron kettles of boiling water.

IFAW team leader, Englishman John Nye, recently took the picture you see here in the northern city of Tongduchon. When he tried to interfere with the slow strangling "there was a heated confrontation on the verge of violence."

IFAW will not be deterred by threats... our anti-cruelty teams are going back. But we urgently need your financial support and your protest to the Korean Ambassador.

MY PROTEST TO THE SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR

I solemnly support IFAW's demand for an end to atrocities to animals in your Country.

Name (please print):
Address:
Post code:
(IFAW will present this protest on your behalf.)
I also enclose £... to help IFAW work for animals worldwide.
Please send this protest and your donation to:
International Fund for Animal Welfare,
Section 105 Tavistock House, New Road,
CROWBOROUGH,
East Sussex
TN8 2QH

IFAW

Grammar school borough is blamed for poor teaching

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A tough report on the Conservative-controlled London borough of Sutton, which has retained its grammar schools, was issued yesterday by the schools inspectors (HMIs). The report said that many of the 44 primary and 16 secondary schools were characterized "by over-direction by the teachers and passivity in the pupils, many of whom, particularly the most able, are not sufficiently extended".

A combination of tightly controlled staffing levels and below average levels of funding for primary and secondary pupils leads to teachers not having enough time to plan, not means to implement new courses to respond to pupils' needs, national initiatives and changing social and economic conditions. The report, compiled between 1979 and 1982 by 76 inspectors who spent 460 days in the borough, says that lack of resources is particularly acute in the small secondary modern schools. "The development of a better balance of practical and theoretical learning across the curriculum is impeded by general shortages of resources and schools' inability to replace obsolescent books and equipment."

In two primary schools parents contributed more money in 1981-82 than the local authority gave in the General School Allowance. The money was used to buy audio-visual aids, large items of equipment and books. The report says that the local school inspectorate is too small and lacks the range of qualifications needed to give schools guidance. It says that Sutton's pupil-teacher ratio in primary schools of 24.9 to one was the worst of all English local educational authorities in 1981-82. The secondary ratio of 17.1 to one was below the national average.

In primary schools much of the work was narrow in conception and the standards only high in mathematics and English, the inspectors said. In secondary schools from the fourth year up "the perceived demands of public examination appear to exercise an undue and restrictive influence on the curriculum and on the work of pupils".

While the inspectors emphasized that the need of the academically more able pupils were not fully understood and that their curiosity had not been aroused, they said that examination results were good.

Dr David Trafford, leader of Sutton Council, said yesterday that the report was idealistic and shows a slight political bias against the selective system.

He will table a motion at the next council meeting which says: "We acknowledge that our emphasis on traditional teaching methods as a means of preparation for public examinations leads to a less broad approach to the teaching of the curriculum. However, we believe that basic literacy and numeracy in the primary school and a thorough preparation for examinations at secondary level are what the parents of this area expect, and we have no intention of making changes in our approach to the curriculum at the expense of these basic educational aims."

"The Secretary of State for Education and Science will be informed that the staffing and resource implications of the report are incompatible with the Department of the Environment's expenditure targets and we find reports of this type emanating from a government department are less than helpful."

Motorways 'in state of thrombosis'

By Clifford Wehb, Motoring Correspondent

The Government should make immediate provision in its next Budget to improve and expand the motorway system, the president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said last night.

Mr George Turnbull, speaking at the society's annual dinner, said the motorway system was abysmally short and "suffering from an advanced state of thrombosis". He held of his own experience as a weekly traveller between London and his home in the Midlands. "This means I use the M1 a great deal and I cannot recall a single occasion during the past five years when I have not had to contend with contrailroads, cordoned-off lanes, diversions and a programme of almost continuous maintenance."

He said he wished he had had the presence of mind to invest in companies making the red and white plastic cones which had become all too familiar on our roads. Like many others he had become increasingly disturbed that the environmental lobby has gained a lot of public sympathy for issues like the heavier lorry because of the appalling state of our roads.

London facing years of chaos, Livingstone says

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

London faces several years of disruption in such important municipal services as fire and transport, Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council said yesterday. Presenting the Labour majority's response to the recent White Paper on local government, he told the council of "the appalling potential for conflict and disorder" contained in the Government's simultaneous plans to cut the rates of high spending councils and abolish the GLC.

Accusing the Government of "cynical manipulation" he envisaged that in May 1985 the democratically-elected GLC would be turned over from Labour to Conservative control as borough nominees took over for a transitional year before abolition in 1986. "Frankly, I do not know what will happen," the Labour leader said. But he promised both that the Labour members of the GLC would fulfil their manifesto commitments for as long as they were in power and that the London Labour Party would urge Labour councils to secede from any ramshackle joint bodies set up in the GLC's stead. Mr Livingstone said the

The affluent society of 1983

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Progress towards greater equality in the distribution of wealth virtually came to a halt in the mid-1970s, according to the latest statistics published by the Inland Revenue.

They show that in 1981, the richest 5 per cent of the population owned 45 per cent of total personal wealth in Britain, the same as in 1979 and only fractionally less than the 46 per cent it owned in 1976. In the previous 10 years the share of the richest 5 per cent had fallen sharply from 56 per cent in 1966.

The richest 1 per cent, with wealth valued at more than £100,000 in 1981, saw their share of total wealth drop from 33 per cent in 1966 to 24 per cent in 1976. But it has since stabilized, and it was still 23 per cent in 1981.

The figures relate to marketable wealth, that is, assets that can be sold. Of those by far the most important are people's houses, which accounted for nearly half the £318,000m total in 1979. Insurance policies come next at 17 per cent of total marketable wealth.

Stocks and shares, once a prime source of wealth for the rich, make up only 11 per cent of the total. If pension rights are included, the distribution of wealth becomes less unequal, although again the trend towards greater equality seems to have ground to a halt in the mid-1970s.

Advocates of joint boards and quangos with a single function should heed the lesson given by the performance of such single-purpose authorities as the Thames Water Authority and the London Ambulance Service. Since the early 1970s they had increased their costs by 21 per cent and 27 per cent respectively, over and above the rate of inflation.



Agca stops Rome's traffic

Guarded by armed police in bullet-proof jackets, Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turk serving a life sentence for shooting the Pope, is escorted back to Rebibbia prison after renegeing his assassination attempt of May 13, 1981, in front of two Bulgarian magistrates (John Earl writes from Rome).

Traffic in central Rome was held up for three hours yesterday as the Turk went through a lengthy reconstruction. He was given a toy pistol and made to dismount from a car in Via Della Conciliazione, the street in front of St Peter's Square, at the spot where he alleges he was driven by Mr Sergei Antonov, a Bulgarian Airline official held in prison since last November for suspected involvement in the shooting.

The reconstruction, organized by Signor Ilario Martella, the Italian magistrate in charge of the case, was attended by lawyers representing Ali Agca and Mr Antonov and also by the Bulgarian magistrates, Mr Jordan Olsankov and Mr Marko Petov.

Ali Agca claims the Bulgarian Secret Service masterminded the attempt on the Pope. Yesterday Mr Antonov's lawyers said: "For us nothing has changed. We are convinced Mr Antonov has nothing to do with this affair."

Chirac turns union poll into political fight

From Diana Geddes, Paris

For the first time in more than 20 years, French workers, the CGT and the CFDT of the retired go to the polls today to elect union representatives responsible for administering the social security and health insurance funds, whose annual outlay of 900 billion francs (£75 billion) is bigger than the government's annual expenditure.

Despite the Government's efforts to play down the election's political importance, people will be looking with interest at the right-left split and also studying the relative positions of the unions whose future influence will be affected by the result.

Only a fifth of French workers belong to any union. Despite a sharp decline over the past decade, the OGT is still the biggest union with just over a million members, followed closely by the CFDT and the moderate Force Ouvrière, each with probably just under one million members. Some way behind come the OGC and the CFCT, each with about a quarter of a million members.

Membership does not necessarily reflect the degree of a union's support among the total working population, hence the importance of today's elections.

In the last national election of union representatives (for ombudsmen) in December, 1982, which involved less than half the number of those eligible to vote today, the CGT obtained 37 per cent of the vote, the CFDT 24 per cent, Force Ouvrière 18 per cent, the OGC 10 per cent, and the CFCT 9 per cent.

Mr Paul Marchelli, number two in the CGC, which despite its claims of independence is probably the most right-wing of the unions, said: "I have no intention of hiring a lawyer." Mr Harper said, "My intent is to cooperate with the Government in every way I can to expedite the proceedings."

Pretoria to enforce white areas

From Michael Hoxbury, Johannesburg

The South African Government has announced that it will take "drastic measures" against Indians and mixed-blood "Coloureds" who it says are living illegally in an area of Johannesburg reserved for whites. It will also impose heavy fines on white landlords who accept them as tenants.

The announcement, by Mr Pen Kotze, the Minister of Community Development, comes just two weeks before white South Africans vote in a referendum on a new constitution which would extend the franchise, on qualified terms, to Indians and Coloureds, and give them a limited say in policy-making.

It was evidently designed to dispel any lingering illusions or fears that implementation of the new constitution would in any way weaken the main pillars of apartheid such as the Group Areas Act, which enforces racially segregated residential areas.

The Rev Allan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party and the main spokesman for conservative coloured opinion, said his party would have to "review" its decision to take part in the new constitution if Mr Kotze's statement was "representative of the Government's attitude to change."

Peronists and Radicals court 18 million voters

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

On October 30, for the first time in 10 years, general elections will be held in Argentina. The country's 17.89 million registered voters will be electing the President, the two Houses of Congress, the provincial governors and legislators, and the mayors and municipal councillors around the country.

Just under four million members of the electorate, brought up under military rule, will be voting for the first time in their lives. While there are more than 300 political parties in the country, most are purely local in nature. Only 11 parties or coalitions are putting up presidential candidates.

The Peronists are led by Senator Italo Luder, a 66-year-old constitutional lawyer and former Senator leader. They were the traditional mass party from 1946 and won the elections in 1973 with 62 per cent of the vote, but the death of their charismatic founder, General Juan Domingo Peron, and other problems, are expected to reduce their total this time round.

Senator Raul Alfonsín, the 54-year-old candidate for the Radical Party, is mounting the most serious challenge. The Radicals, essentially a middle class party, have hitherto found it hard work to win more than a 25 per cent share of the popular vote. But Senator Alfonsín's popularity, and his attempts to break into Peronism's working class constituency, are now expected to get results. The key issue is whether he can advance enough to snatch the presidency out of Senator Luder's hands.

Two parties are battling for third place: the left-wing Intransigents, led by Senator Oscar Alende, a fiery former Governor of Buenos Aires province, and the Movement for Integration and Development, which emphasizes industrialization as the solution to Argentina's chronic instability, and whose candidate is Senator Rogelio Frigerio.

Next in order of the likely results are the right-wing Federal Alliance of Senator Francisco Manrique, a former Navy captain; the Christian Democrats under Senator Francisco Cerro; and the centrist Social Democratic Alliance.

Free market economics are represented by Senator Alvaro Alsogaray, a former Army officer-turned-businessman who leads the Union of the Democratic Centre.

There are also two far-left parties, of vague Trotskyist inspiration. The Workers' Party is fielding Senator Gregorio Flores, a trade unionist and former political prisoner. The Movement Towards Socialist Candidates is Senator Luis Zamora, a lawyer and human rights activist. Finally, Senator Guillermo Estévez Bero is standing for the Popular Socialist Party.

The presidential elections are indirect, and will be determined by decisions taken either in a 600-member electoral college, or, in the last instance, in a joint sitting of Congress.

The constitutional procedure for choosing the President is particularly important, as there is a high probability that neither Senator Luder nor Senator Alfonsín will obtain an absolute majority. Two senators are elected for each of the country's 24 electoral districts but the number of deputies varies according to population, from 144 in the densely populated Buenos Aires province down to four in Tierra del Fuego. There will be 48 senators and 252 deputies. Each district produces a number of electoral college members equivalent to twice the sum of its senators and deputies. The electors are chosen on the basis of proportional representation.

The system works to under-represent densely populated areas such as Buenos Aires province, the federal capital, and Córdoba, and to over-represent the least-inhabited provinces. Buenos Aires province, for example, has 36 per cent of the electorate, but will choose only 24 per cent of the 600-strong electoral college.

If no candidate has a majority in the electoral college, alliances are possible. Thus if Senator Alfonsín came a close second to Senator Luder in the popular vote, he could still reach the presidency by allying himself with other parties electors in the college, such as those from the Intransigents or the Movement for Integration and Development.

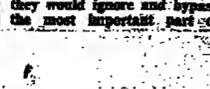
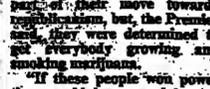
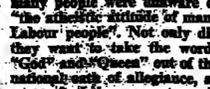
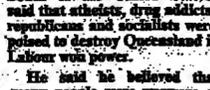
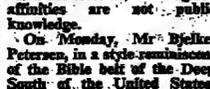
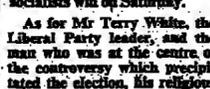
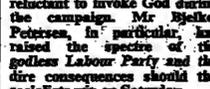
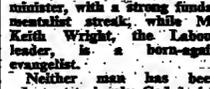
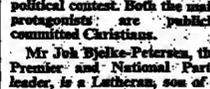
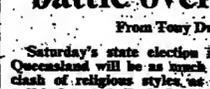
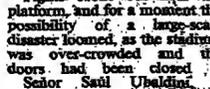
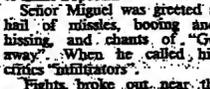
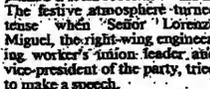
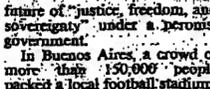
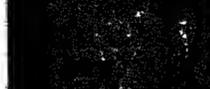
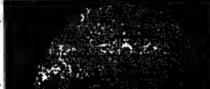
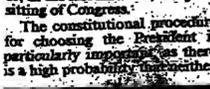
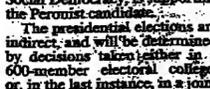
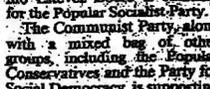
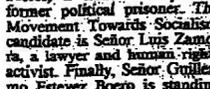
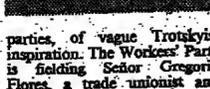
While constitutionally possible, such a move may be politically dangerous because the "first minority" would complain bitterly. Both the Intransigents and the Movement for Integration and Development are not making any promises on whom they will support.

If deadlock prevails in the electoral college, the final decision is taken by a joint sitting of the senators and deputies. Here the same type of alliances will be tried again.

Many observers fear that a long, drawn-out battle in the electoral college and Congress over choosing the President would lengthen the period of political "drift" in the country, at a time when the foreign debt crisis, among other issues, needs quick decisions.

The current military Government has set the end of January, 1984, as the deadline for handing power to the incoming civilians, but with the military regime seen as an increasingly divided and lame-duck administration, it is hoped that the date can be brought forward to December 15 or even earlier.

ARGENTINE ELECTIONS



Union leader shouted down at rally

From Our Correspondent, Buenos Aires

Argentina's Peronists celebrated their traditional "Loyalty Day" with two mass rallies in Córdoba and Buenos Aires. But at the rally in the capital the crowds booed and hissed a speech by one of the party's senior leaders, pelting him with coins and sticks.

More than 100,000 people turned out on the streets of Córdoba, Argentina's second city, to hear a speech by Senator Italo Luder, the party's presidential candidate. The radicals, Senator Luder's main electoral opponents in the polls due on October 30, are particularly strong in Córdoba, and the candidate has been concentrating his efforts there.

The Peronist leader condemned the military government in his speech, promising a future of "justice, freedom, and sovereignty" under a peronist government.

In Buenos Aires, a crowd of more than 150,000 people packed a local football stadium. The festive atmosphere turned tense when Senator Lorenzo Miguel, the right-wing engineering workers' union leader, said vice-president of the party, tried to make a speech.

Senator Miguel was greeted a hail of missiles, booing and hissing, and chants of "Go away." When he called his critics "initiators",

Fights broke out near the platform, and for a moment the possibility of a large-scale riot seemed to loom as the stadium was over-crowded and the doors had been closed. Senator Saul Ubaldini, a

popular trade union leader, was able to calm the crowd, however, and Senator Miguel, who has been accused by the Radicals of conducting secret negotiations with army officers to guarantee that they will not face prosecution for their role in human rights violations.

His humiliation at the hands of the Peronists rank-and-file shows that the "distrust" he shared, and may mark the beginning of the end of his role as the "power behind the throne" in the party.

Monday's rallies were to commemorate October 17, 1945, when mass demonstrations prevented the dismissal of Colonel Juan Domingo Peron from the military Government.

living and that is the ethical and Christian part. "You can have leaders who do not believe or reject parts of the Christian belief. We are a Christian nation, but half the ALP (Australian Labour Party) will not take an oath on the Bible," he said.

When it was pointed out, on a recent television current affairs programme, that his Labour opposite number was also a committed Christian Mr Bjelke-Petersen replied: "He's not my sort of Christian."

Mr Wright, on the other hand, takes a lower key, though no less committed, Christian line. His style has been likened to that of President Carter on the campaign trail, which is appropriate for a man who would lead the state known to Sydney and Melbourne dwellers as the deep North.

The similarity between Mr Carter and Mr Wright is probably no accident; the Queensland Labour leader spent 12 weeks in the United States in 1979.

He spent six days a week on the road spreading the gospel in the United States. Last year Mr Wright nearly gave up politics to take up full-time evangelism work in America. "I prayed a great deal and decided I could do more as a politician," he said at the time.

Soon after making that statement he was chosen as Labour Party leader. He is quite unashamed in saying that he believes his mission as a politician is the result of divine guidance. The signs are increasingly that the contest will be between Mr Bjelke Petersen and Mr Wright, as the Liberal Party is torn by political infighting.

Man in US spy case 'given shopping list'

San Francisco (AP) - The man who is alleged to have sold vital US defence secrets for \$250,000 (£166,000) began his espionage career after being presented with a Soviet "shopping list" for information by two spies, officials say.

Mr James Durward Harper, a computer consultant, was held without bail yesterday after a brief appearance on Monday before a magistrate on a charge of espionage involving information allegedly passed to Polish spies and turned to the Soviet Union.

Mr Harper is alleged to have obtained photocopies of sensitive defence research through Ruby Louise Schuler, his late wife, who worked for Systems Control Inc, a computer company in Palo Alto, California.

"I have no intention of hiring a lawyer," Mr Harper said. "My intent is to cooperate with the Government in every way I can to expedite the proceedings."

According to an FBI affidavit filed in the Federal Court, about 100 "extremely sensitive" classified documents - some with Mr Harper's fingerprints - were passed in a series of 14 meetings over a four-and-a-half-year period. They included details about the minimum intercontinental missile and materials aimed at helping the United States survive a first-strike nuclear attack.

The secrets apparently were of tremendous value to the KGB which was said to be "extremely excited" Soviet-block intelligence agents twice got communications on July 22, 1980, for their role in obtaining the materials. The affidavit said the FBI was tipped off in May, 1979, by a high-ranking officer in the Polish intelligence service, which is known as SB.



Bail refused: Mr James Harper, accused of selling secrets to Poland.

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There's a course for all our range of equipment and programs. They are sensibly planned. For instance,

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We recommend they take a three day introduction course, then go away and become more familiar with the equipment before returning for another day to learn the full potential of the processor.

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And for the businessman we have a series of one day and two day courses to introduce them to the equipment and to the software they wish to use.

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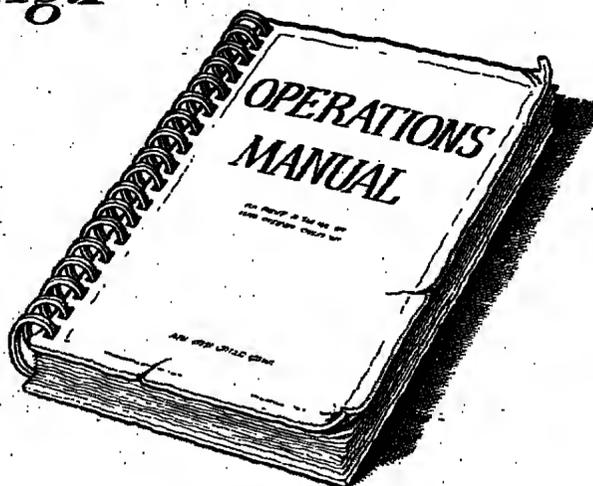
If you're interested in talking to one of our people about your computer needs, that's also very simple.

All you have to do is dial 100 and ask for Freefone Merlin.

If you want it to be more complicated you can always fill in the coupon.

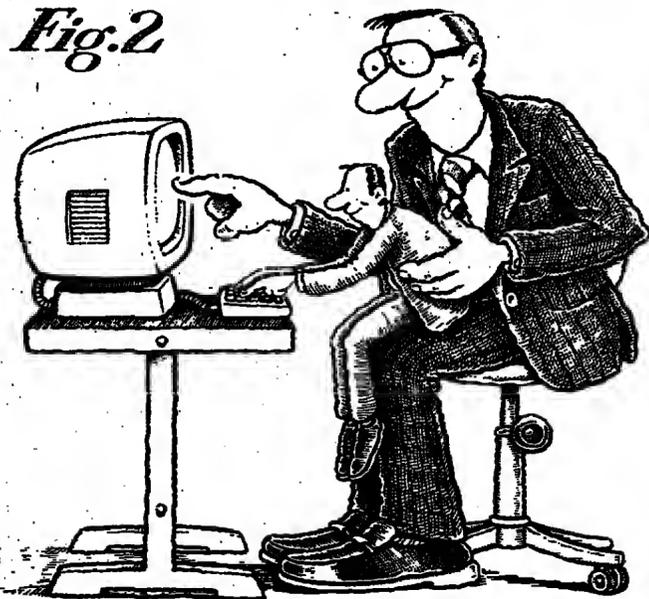


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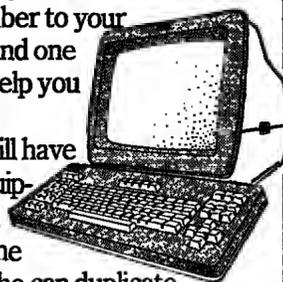


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Fig.2



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ONS
at rail
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Sniper-plagued airport picked as site for Lebanon peace talks

After three weeks spent squabbling over the venue for their national reconciliation conference, the Lebanese Government and opposition leaders decided yesterday they would gather at Beirut international airport tomorrow for the first in a series of meetings that could change the country's constitutional structure.

Troops of the multinational force in Beirut, including United States Marines, will guard the delegates, who will include pro-Syrian politicians as well as government ministers. Syria and Saudi Arabia will also have representatives at the conference.

President Amin Gemayel's most recent suggestion was that the meetings should be held in the Health Ministry building on the old Beirut front line, but Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze militia leader, agreed in Damascus yesterday that he would be

prepared to travel to Beirut airport and meet the Lebanese head of state under the protection of the multinational force.

Since Mr Jumblatt has been demanding the withdrawal of the international force from Beirut, on the ground that American ships and French jets had both attacked his artillery positions in the Chouf mountains last month, his expression of confidence came as something of a surprise.

British and Italian troops may be invited to guard the delegates, since neither the Druze nor the Shia Muslim Amal movement, also to be represented at the talks, have found reason to complain about these contingents.

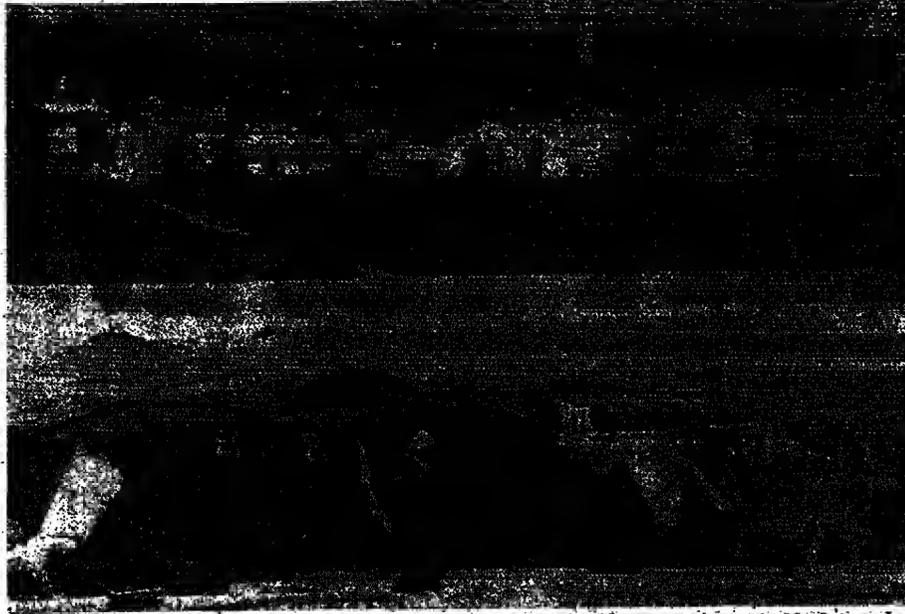
Western diplomats have been dismayed to discover in the past few days that senior members of the Lebanese Government, including to some extent President Gemayel himself, still

believe the talks are more a formality than the start of a process that may alter Lebanon's political shape.

Syria and its political allies in Lebanon are intent on gaining some radical reforms — the ending or setting aside of the May 17 agreement between Lebanon and Israel and changes in the command structure of the Lebanese Army.

While the United States wants the May 17 agreement to continue, it believes Mr Gemayel will have to make substantial concessions over the Army and that the Phalange Party's control of political power within the Government must be weakened. President Gemayel, however, spoke of the conference last week as "a camouflage", a distraction that delayed the withdrawal of foreign armies.

The conference will start none too soon. The fracturing ceasefire in Lebanon yesterday closed even the main road between Beirut and the airport as sniper fire from Shia Muslims in Bouj El-Barajneh, presumably directed at Lebanese Army positions near the terminal, cracked across the boulevard running south of the capital.



Desert contrasts: Beduin complaints of the lack of services provided for them in Israel are illustrated in this photograph. An Arab woman collects laundry outside her home on the outskirts of Tel Sheva, a tent town in the Negev Desert, while in the background is the affluent Jewish town of Omer, a suburb of Be'er Sheva.

Icebreakers mass to punch way to ships

Moscow — In a desperate effort to save ships still trapped in the frozen Sea of Chukots, all available ice breakers are being massed to smash their way through the ice "like a fist" (Richard Owen writes).

The nuclear-powered icebreaker Lenin has arrived to join its sister ship Leonid Brezhnev and other ice breakers in the area.

Helicopters and other aircraft are looking for weak spots in the ice to prepare the way for the planned mass assault. The temperature has dropped to -20C.

Editor held in Pakistan

Islamabad — Mr Rafi Butt, chief editor of a local Urdu language daily, *Haider*, was arrested by police at his home and detained for three months under martial law regulations, newspaper sources said.

The paper had ignored advice on the news it could publish.

Blast escape

Charleston (Reuters) No bodies were found by rescue workers searching the debris of a grocery store south of the West Virginia capital demolished by a gas explosion on Monday. Sixteen people were injured and it was initially feared that the owners of five parked cars had died. They were traced, however.

Yangtze upset

Portland (Reuters) — A United States rafting team has postponed until next year an attempt to float 1,700 miles down part of the Yangtze because of diplomatic delays. Other countries complained to Peking about not being invited to make similar expeditions.

Skull find

Nairobi — A human skull, between 150,000 and 300,000 years old, found on the western shore of Lake Turkana, is remarkably complete and well preserved, according to Mr Richard Leakey, director of the National Museums of Kenya.

Duke joins king

Amman (Reuters) — The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the World Wildlife Fund, has arrived on a private visit to Jordan. He was accompanying King Hussein to the Azrak wildlife reserve where 31 Arabian oryx have been saved from extinction.

Canberra choice

Mr Alfred Parsons, a career diplomat has been appointed Australian High Commissioner in London to succeed Sir Victor Garland before the end of the year. Mr Parsons, aged 58, is a deputy secretary at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra.

Killer outbreak

Lagos (Reuters) — More than 90 people have died in two weeks in an outbreak of gastroenteritis in the Kaura Namoda area of Sokoto, north-west Nigeria. Mass immunization is taking place.

Ex-Premier ill

Wellington — Sir Keith Holyoake, a former Governor General and Prime Minister of New Zealand, has been admitted to hospital suffering from high blood pressure. He is 79.

Nightcap

Paris (AFP) — Regine Le Guilloux, mother of seven grown-up sons, was detained awaiting trial on a charge of putting sleeping pills in her husband's soup every night so that he would not want sexual relations with her.

Tension at Comecon talks

Berlin (Reuters) — Government heads of the Eastern trade group Comecon began a three-day session in East Berlin yesterday to discuss food and energy supplies, chaired by Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister. Mr Milan Kraljic, the Comecon spokesman, told journalists on Monday that the agenda included increasing cooperation in energy and raw materials savings and "better provision of the population with foodstuffs".

East European sources said that strains were likely over the price charged for Soviet oil and raw materials and the prices Moscow's allies were receiving for food and finished products.

Shultz warns Iran on Gulf 'blackmail'

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has made clear that the United States cannot allow Iran to blackmail it by threatening to close the crucial Strait of Hormuz in the oil-exporting Gulf.

Iran has said it may restrict shipping in the Gulf if Iraq uses Super-Etendard fighters with Exocet missiles due to be received from France.

Mr Shultz told reporters as he flew back to Washington after a visit to Canada: "I do think we don't want to get ourselves into the position where the Iranians, or for that matter anybody else, say 'If you do X or fail to do Y, we'll do something about the Strait of Hormuz.' We don't want to put anybody in the position of successful use of that kind of tactic."

A White House spokesman yesterday emphasized US neutrality in the Gulf war.

Likud risks reopening of stock exchange

Urgent attempts to contain the wave of financial panic in Israel will face a crucial test tomorrow when the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is due to resume partial operations after two weeks of closure prompted by fears of a crash.

Under an agreement reached after intensive negotiations, trading in bonds will be permitted to start again and transactions in all other securities — including the vulnerable bank shares — estimated to be worth more than \$4,500m — will begin on Sunday after the two-day break for the Sabbath.

The Government has made repeated appeals to the public not to embark on further panic selling of stock exchange assets. The present crisis was provoked by mass selling of bank shares by investors anxious to transfer them into foreign currency, in anticipation of a big devaluation. The sellers appeared justified when the shekel was devalued by 23 per cent.

Some Israeli economists, and many citizens who did not own any of the popular but overvalued bank shares, have been bitterly critical of the government scheme to try to maintain about 85 per cent of their previous value by effectively turning them into dollar-linked bonds, redeemable over a five to six-year period.

Enthusiasm waning on sixth day

Weighted down with clanking chains, a symbolic victim of militarism shuffled up and down in front of the office of a Bonn army dealer. Revolutionary "fighters in El Salvador" were shot with plastic guns by Western-supplied government troops, while on the banner of a poster-covered car crunched the stuffed and static "victim" of the arms company.

The exhibition, performed by a few dozen youthful demonstrators, was recorded by the cameras of the world's press as police with guard dogs looked on wryly from behind the barricades in front of the office block.

Anti-militarism and international solidarity, the theme of yesterday's demonstrations, took other forms in other places.

In Hamburg protesters blocked the office of an importer of office from El Salvador. In Munich a tour was organized around military and anti-militarist landmarks. In city squares around the country little groups smashed paper-maché armaments or beat symbolic swords into ploughshares.

The exhibition, under rainy grey skies, was also symbolic of the sixth consecutive day of peaceful protests against the deployment of Nato missiles, popular enthusiasm is clearly waning. Public and government supporters are forecasting that the "hot autumn" will turn out to be barely lukewarm.

"On the political front, however, opponents of the Nato decision are keeping up the pressure.

Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, accepted the invitation to speak at the final rally in Bonn on Saturday, saying his party had no intention of swallowing up or eclipsing the peace movement, but it was "time for a no" to deployment.

Anti-American mood, page 12

Callaghan recalls Rasputin

The Russians found in their talks with Mr James Callaghan yesterday that behind his deceptively avuncular manner lay a steely and well-informed approach to East-West affairs.

Mr Callaghan strode temporarily into the East-West limelight with the same relish that he took on unilateralists at the Labour Party conference last month.

Since President Andropov also takes a dim view of unilateralists — he once described them as naive — Mr Callaghan should find some common ground with the Kremlin despite current tensions over the Korean airliner crisis and the Euro-missiles question.

Mr Callaghan was last in Moscow in 1975 as Foreign Secretary, with Sir Harold Wilson, who was then Prime Minister. He seemed to experience a sense of déjà vu.

"We went to the Bolshoi" he recalled. "I sat at the end of the row in the royal box. Harold sat in the middle. I leaned across and asked him what it felt like to be in the Tsar's seat. He thought for a moment and replied, 'What's it like to be in Rasputin's?'"

Mr Callaghan deplored the fact that no British Foreign Secretary had held substantive talks in Moscow for some time.

"He said it was hardly surprising that the Russians placed Britain so low down in their pecking order after West Germany and France.

Dialogue with Russia was all the more important at times of dangerous tension, but he added modestly that it was not up to him to do so. That was up to the Government.

After talks with Mr Boris Ponomarev, a candidate Politburo member, Mr Callaghan travels today to Volgograd, as Stalingrad is now called.

He recalled his first trip to Russia, in 1945, when he inspected war damage at Stalingrad, as a young naval lieutenant. "I think I looked rather impressive in my greatcoat."

Stalingrad had given him a feeling of "shared warmth" for the Soviet people — "if that does not sound too naive" — but not for the Soviet bureaucracy.

Surprise EEC deal clears way for Iberian entry

It is probably not a complete coincidence that the breakthrough came after the "socialist summit" of European prime ministers in Athens over the weekend when both Dr Mario Soares of Portugal and Señor Felipe Gonzalez of Spain complained about slow progress in negotiations. The French, Italian and Greek prime ministers present were left in no doubt about the mounting irritation at the delay.

It was as a result of compromise and concessions made by these three countries that yesterday's agreement was possible, Señor Fernando

position on agriculture by the end of the year.

Moran, the Spanish Foreign Minister, afterwards thanked both Greece and Italy for their generosity in making agreement possible.

Essentially the new agreement covers the way in which fruit and vegetables, like citrus fruits, tomatoes, apricots and aubergines, can be supported and marketed. There was no detailed discussion of olive oil, although Mr Michael Jopling, the British Agriculture Minister, insisted on a sentence being put into the minutes to the effect that there must be no money for unwanted production.

Señor Moran welcomed the move but was under no illusions that it meant Spanish

Papandreou to end wage freeze

Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, celebrated two years in power last night with a gigantic anniversary rally in central Athens, which his opponents branded a Roman triumph and which, the Government called a historic day of the people.

Addressing the cheering crowd, which the ruling Socialists had promised would be the largest ever seen in the Greek capital, Mr Papandreou promised to end the wage freeze in 1984 and take decisive action to combat unemployment. "We stand firm," he said. "The underpinners shall not pass."

Plugging his government to support neither West nor East, "Greece is today the pioneer in the struggle of European peoples for détente. We fight against the hawk in every corner of the world."

Mr Papandreou was speaking in Constitution Square, which was flooded by 600 powerful projectors fitted on tall towers of scaffolding.

Eleven television crews recorded the event for the state media, but there was no live transmission, probably to stop people watching the "fiesta" in comfort at home.

The rental of the projectors for six months and their installation over the past two weeks at a total cost of £145,000 angered the opposition and caused acrimony in Parliament.

Western rift over who cut the imam's throat

It is plainly in the interests of the Western governments to keep such matters before the public eye, but the danger is that they have to rely on third-hand or at best second-hand information, or they are fed stories by parties keen to play up the Mujahidin successes.

Yesterday one embassy — known among local correspondents for vivid accounts of bloodshed and government forces captured — illustrated the growing number of political assassinations in Kabul with a reference to the imam of Qala Mian Mosque, known locally as Mallah Korsoy, or the great Mallah. He was found with his throat cut in his own mosque.

The diplomat said that his throat was cut from ear to ear — "slighted like a sacrificial lamb".

500 rally to Walesa's priest

Father Henryk Jankowski, the outspoken priest of Mr Lech Walesa and the Gdansk shipyard workers, is being investigated under political charges that could bring him a total jail sentence of up to 21 years.

Some 500 angry parishioners, a group of old-fashioned ladies, gathered outside the Gdansk prosecutor's office, chanting their support for Mr Jankowski, who was accompanied by Mr Walesa and his lawyer Mr Jack Taylor, a prominent defender of dissidents.

The authorities said the priest was being investigated under Article 106 (abuse of religious freedom), Article 270 (maliciously spreading lies) and Article 271 (dissemination of false information). These sections of the penal code are regarded as concerning political offences.

Mr Jankowski said that he would continue to speak out for "truth, justice and human rights" and that he had simply been fulfilling his pastoral duties.

Mr Jankowski, a tall swarthy figure who has celebrated Mass for striking workers, is a close friend of the Walesa family and

Danish Premier sets deadline for cuts package

Mr Poul Schluter, Denmark's Conservative Prime Minister, has set a deadline of Sunday midnight for final agreement with opposition parties on a austerity package of 10,000m kroner (\$77m) spending cuts largely affecting the public.

If Mr Schluter's four-party minority coalition fails to gain support for its continuing policies of economic rigour, he will call an early election, a likely date being November 15, parliamentary sources told *The Times*.

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

By-elections are to be held for eight vacant parliamentary seats in Uganda on November 16 — and the ruling Uganda People's Congress is likely to take them all because the opposition Democratic Party says that it will boycott the elections.

Mr Paulo Semogerere, the Democrat leader, says that there is not sufficient security to hold the elections and that more than 20 members of his party have been killed in only two constituencies in the past few weeks.

In the 1980 election Uganda Congress won 73 seats and the Democrats 51 but nine former Democrat MPs have since crossed to the Congress party

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

Britain — was a KGB agent and that her "control" had used threats against the Skinner family. The Skinners' son lives in Harrow with his mother.

It has been confirmed, however, that Mr Skinner did tell British Embassy officials that he believed there was a Soviet spy in the embassy itself. Officials have refused to say whether he named a suspect, but no British diplomats in Moscow have since left the service.

Embassy officials have refused all comment on the case on the ground that the matter is only justice. An inquest on Mr Skinner, held in camera in the summer and adjourned, will soon resume in open session. Observers feel it may be

Document dear to Gandhi

"I always start off by not expecting anything. That always helps, I think," Mrs Gandhi said to me at the weekend, talking about the forthcoming meeting of Commonwealth heads of government, which will be held in Delhi next month.

"These meetings are not meant to achieve any kind of dramatic result. They are get-togethers in a friendly, informal atmosphere, where we can talk about things," she said.

"At such meetings we discuss matters which are of special concern to us. There are many matters which do concern the Commonwealth as a whole to discuss them and to arrive at a consensus is a worthwhile achievement."

The principal matter likely to be discussed at the November meeting, and one that is dear to the Indian Prime Minister's heart, as chairman of the non-aligned movement, is a docu-

Document dear to Gandhi

ment proposing steps towards a new Bretton Woods agreement. The Commonwealth prime ministers will have before them a document forwarded by the meeting of finance ministers held last month in Trinidad. Despite reservations expressed by the British, Canadian and to a lesser extent, the Australian representatives, the document sees the need for an international monetary conference to provide a new order for world financial and economic dealings.

The document was drawn up by a number of economists at the suggestions of Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister. Despite the differences of initial response to the paper at Trinidad, the finance ministers agreed to "commend its thrust to Delhi", according to the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Srijith Ramphal.

According to Mr Ramphal:

Western rift over who cut the imam's throat

It sees an international conference at the end of the road, but sees a necessary period of very careful preparation for it, and suggests a process by which that preparation might take place."

The notion of a world monetary conference has been very much on the minds of the Third World nations recently. The non-aligned meeting in Delhi earlier this year made a similar call for a meeting, and Mrs Gandhi, as chairman of the movement, urged its consideration at both Unctad and at the Williamsburg summit. The developed world powers, however, have so far resisted the call.

"One of the situations that is threatening peace, apart from the arms race, is the widening gap between the rich nations and the poor nations," Mrs Gandhi said. "We very much hope that it will be one of the items on the agenda here."

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

Foreigners here are nonetheless asking a number of questions about the Skinner case, some of which suggest his fears of KGB pressure might have been genuine:

● Although Mr Skinner spent the night of Wednesday, June 15, in the flat of an embassy official, why was he not given similar protection until his planned departure on Monday, June 20?

● If there are no security implications, why did Midland Bank representatives from London spend more than 14 hours closeted with Sir Iain Sutherland, the Ambassador, in

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

● Where did he go between being dropped at the tourist hotel by British officials on Thursday, June 16, and appearing at a trade reception the same evening?

● What fears did he express in last-minute telephone calls from Moscow to his wife in Harrow and Midland Bank officials in London?

● LONDON: The Foreign Office said last night that an autopsy report on Mr Skinner had been received from Moscow and would be passed to the coroner before the open inquest (Henry Stuppel writes).

(But a spokesman declined to comment on the allegations concerning Mr Skinner.

The unanswered questions behind banker's death

● The unanswered questions behind banker's death

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

● Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

● Opposition will boycott Uganda by-elections

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2.2 A certificate will be issued in respect of each purchase. This certificate will show the value of the bond and its date of purchase. This certificate will be replaced on each anniversary of the date of purchase, and on part repayment in accordance with paragraph 5.2 by a new certificate showing the updated value of the bond, including capitalised interest.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HOLDING LIMITS

3.1 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £500 in any one bond or more than £50,000 in one or more bonds. The maximum holding limit will not prevent the capitalisation of interest under paragraph 4.3 but capitalised interest will count towards this limit if the holder wishes to purchase another bond. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder and interest on such bonds will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum which he may hold as trustee of a separate fund or which he or the beneficiary may hold in a personal capacity.

3.2 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits from time to time, upon giving notice, but such a variation will not prejudice any right enjoyed by a bond holder immediately before the variation in respect of a bond then held by him.

INTEREST

4.1 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment. Subject to paragraph 4.2 interest on a bond will be payable at a rate determined by the Treasury, which may be varied upon giving six weeks notice.

4.2 The rate of interest on a bond or part of a bond repaid before the first anniversary of the date of purchase will be half the rate determined by the Treasury in accordance with paragraph 4.1, unless repayment is made on the death of the sole bond holder.

4.3 Interest on a bond will be capitalised on each anniversary of the date of purchase without deduction of income tax, but interest is subject to income

tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue in respect of the year in which it is capitalised.

REPAYMENT

5.1 A holder must give three calendar months notice of any application for repayment before redemption but no prior notice is required if application is made on the death of the sole bond holder. Any application for repayment of a bond must be made in writing to the National Savings Deposit Bond Office and be accompanied by the current investment certificate. The period of notice will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the National Savings Deposit Bond Office.

5.2 Application may be made in accordance with paragraph 5.1 for repayment of part of a bond, including capitalised interest, but the amount to be repaid must not be less than £50, or such other figure as the Treasury may determine from time to time upon giving notice. The balance of the bond remaining after repayment, excluding interest which has not been capitalised, must be not less than the minimum holding limit which was in force at the date of application. Where part of a bond has been repaid a new certificate will be issued and the remaining balance will be treated as having the same date of purchase as the original bond.

5.3 Payments will be made by crossed warrant sent by post. For the purpose of determining the amount payable in respect of a bond the date of repayment will be treated as the date on the warrant.

5.4 No payment will be made in respect of a bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person, except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

TRANSFERS

6 Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. The Director of Savings will, for example, normally give consent in the case of devolution of bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

NOTICE

7 The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 3.2, 4.1, 5.2 and 8 in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes or in any manner which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazettes, it will as soon as reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS

8 Each bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the purchase date. Thereafter, interest will continue to be payable in accordance with paragraphs 4.1 and 4.3 until the redemption of the bond. The bond may be redeemed either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any date thereafter, in either case upon the giving of six months notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the holder before redemption, at his last recorded address, informing him of the date of redemption.

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Postcode

Note: If the Bond is to be held jointly the names and addresses of all holders should be entered. The Investment Certificate and all correspondence will normally be sent to the first named holder.

Date of Birth (if under 7) Day Month Year

NAME AND ADDRESS TO WHICH DEPOSIT BOND SHOULD BE SENT (Complete only if different from first address above)

Name

Address

Postcode

Signature(s)

Date

Note: If the Bond is to be held jointly all the parties must sign above. Persons signing for children under 7 should also state relationship here.

THE ARTS



The plumed heads of Egypt: Boris Martinovich (left) as Pharaoh, Keith Lewis (Amenophis) and Petra Malakova (Sinaide); and Samuel Ramey's dominating Moses

Opera

Sumptuous blend of sacred and profane

Moise Paris Opéra

For the moment the honeymoon between Paris and the new general administrator at the Opéra, Massimo Bogianckino, is surely on. The first production of his regime, Rossini's Moise, has been a total success with public and press alike and that is something of a rarity in these parts.

their early days and used Rossini's penultimate creation for the stage to bring themselves fame and fortune. Giving it to the ladies and gentlemen of the Opéra chorus, which has been distinctly variable in quantity and quality over the years, is tantamount to a vote of confidence. They responded magnificently, from the Israelites' opening cry of despair at Egyptian oppression, "Dien puissant" (which Rossini sliced from his earlier Armida), through to the closing priere before the Red Sea swallows Pharaoh and his impious forces.

On a more subtle level Bogianckino has issued his first reminder to Paris - others follow later in the season - of its operatic heritage. Rossini first tackled the Moses story for Naples in 1818 and again a year later, the second version, Mosè in Egitto, was issued on record by Philips a few months ago. Almost a decade later the Opéra invited him to rework it. Rossini obliged with a very different treatment in the Paris style: a grand opera in four acts, with additional choruses and a ballet. Italy acknowledged the success by having this version retranslated back into Italian.

Moise, which has not been heard at the Opéra this century, has been entrusted to Luca Ronconi, who worked regularly with Bogianckino in his previous house, the Teatro Comunale in Florence. Ronconi's operatic work is highly variable, veering from productions of great grace and clarity, such as Gluck's Orfeo at the Comunale, to those of obstructive perversity, including the Ernani which opened the last Scala season. Happily Moise falls into category one. Gianni Quaranta, designer of Zeffirelli's film of La traviata which opens in London this week, has devised a split-level stage so that the Israelites can scamble about in the lower depths while the Egyptians rule above. It is a technique that has been used before and it works. Moses' "tent" of Act I looks like a synagogue marooned in the desert, tilted at an angle as though the Israelites had been knocked sideways by their oppressors. Thereafter Italian baroque takes over in gleaming colours of white, gold and brown for Pharaoh's palace and the Temple of Isis. Finally, and less successfully, the

baroque theatre is brought in for the parting of the Red Sea and the Israelites' pathway to safety. It is a late eighteenth-century view of the Near East, where putti rub shoulders with miniature sphinxes. And it looks ravishing. So too do Ronconi's groupings, which rarely lose sight of Rossini's classification of his Paris Moise as an "oratorio". Always at the centre is Samuel Ramey's Moses, a hirsute visionary with the humourless fanaticism of a fashionable sociologist, among the plumed helmets of the Egyptians. Britain has heard Mr Ramey mainly in Mozart and not always to best effect. As a Rossini bass he is in a different class, as he showed recently in CBS's Turco in Italia and here again in Paris. There is a secure warmth in his voice coupled with ability to soar over the choral climaxes of the opera. I missed, alas, Cecilia Gasdia, the Italian soprano every European house appears to adore these days, in her Paris debut as Moses' niece Anai. Happily there will be a second chance next year when she appears in another "Paris" opera, Verdi's Jerusalem. Her replace-

John Shrapnel (right), who opens in David Edgar's Maydays at the Barbican tomorrow, is an old hand at RSC epics: interview by Sheridan Morley



Politics in action

"If there is a Cambridge Mafia in the theatre they certainly have never made me an offer. I couldn't refuse; indeed I'd be extremely grateful for their phone number"; thus John Shrapnel, objecting fairly enough to the suggestion that, from the National Youth Theatre through Cambridge to the RSC and the National, his has been a somewhat charmed acting life. Yet after 19 years in the business he has virtually never been out of work, and seldom without at least a substantial role. He joined the NYT straight from school, and I found myself after 16 years in Manchester trying to start again in a city I'd only ever visited once, for a day, during the Festival of Britain.

But, even at 16 in a strange city, Shrapnel did have one thing going for him: the year before his family moved from Manchester, Michael Croft had brought his newly-formed Youth Theatre there from Dulwich with a Henry IV starring Simon Ward and David Weston. "After leaving school I put myself up for auction. I applied to a whole lot of drama schools and university colleges to see if any of them would take me, and sure enough St Catherine's College, Cambridge, offered me a place. So Shrapnel got to Cambridge in the 1960 generation of Michael Pennington, Trevor Nunn, Robin Ellis and Stephen Frears. "I wrote a few reviews which confirmed me in my intention not to be a journalist, and from then on I just acted: Willy Loman in Death of a Salesman, Lucky in Godot, Ulysses in Troilus with George Rylands trying futilely to give me a Gielgud voice. But I had a starchy undergraduate career, and a lot of agents came for a look. One of them then got me a part in the Birmingham Rep, where I spent a deeply unhappy year wondering if I should ever have become an actor in the first place. Birmingham at that time was very unexciting. Richard Eyre did come for The Quare Fellow, thank God; but apart from that it was an extremely dull time and a nasty jolt after the intellectual excitement of Cambridge. Besides I'd never been to drama school and that did not make me hugely popular with the rest of the company who had."

Eventually Shrapnel joined the National at the Old Vic for the last three years of the Olivier regime, starring as Mowbray to Ronald Pickup's Richard II and progressing through Blakemore's triumphant Front Page to a disappointing Bacchae and then The Party. "We were Olivier's men, and when it was known he was leaving we knew that we too were on the way out. Peter Hall sent round a circular saying he'd like to see us all but that the meeting did not constitute an offer of work, so I sent back a note saying I'd see him but that didn't constitute a guarantee of my availability. In the event he didn't seem to have much to offer, so I left and did some films, notably Nicholas and Alexandra and Pope John. It was on Nicholas and Alexandra that he met his wife, who was translating for the unit in Madrid; they now have three young sons and live in the depths of Suffolk, from where Shrapnel travels to the work that interests him and the voiceovers that pay the mortgage."

"Most of my television work seems to be in heavy disguise, so I don't get stopped in the supermarkets much; if you've just been Sakharov in a documentary, it doesn't mean a lot to Spainsbury's. But I don't like being separated from the family, so I wait until I get something interesting or until Jonathan Miller comes back to the business."

Shrapnel sounds more politically aware than the general run of actors, then so he should be - he is one of the two

John Higgins

There are further performances on October 22, 25 and 27.

Concerts

A vision of Haydn's prophetic grandeur

BBCSO/Herbig St John's/Radio 3

How better to begin a new season of BBC Monday lunch time concerts than with a performance of Haydn's last major work, the Harmoniemesse? The impressiveness of this masterpiece is not just due to the way it continually throws up fresh ideas, nor even to its sophisticated exploitation of the elements of symphony and concerto within the form laid down by the text. Nor is it an autumnal retrospective, sum-

ming up all that Haydn had done before. No, the piece is years ahead of its time: the more you get to know it, the more like Beethoven it seems - and that applies as much to its uplifting spirituality as to its bold newness of form or its remarkable orchestral effects. Günther Herbig, the conductor, and a trimmed BBC Symphony Orchestra played the work as if to emphasize the inviting comparison with their performance last Friday of Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, written not long afterwards.

The grandness of Monday's performance took root in the Kyrie, where sonorous vocal solos, a well-integrated vocal quartet of Teresa Cahill, Carolyn Watkinson, Robin Leggate and Stephen Roberts, and the incisive (though on the air not always perfectly balanced) BBC Singers built up an intensity which prepared us for the martial vigour of the Gloria. The "Gratias agimus" which follows is really a symphonic slow movement whose scale resembled here not so much Beethoven as Bruckner, combining chorale, aria and ensemble

in a seamless hymn. The loftiness was maintained in the Credo, which again is all about contrasts. But then Haydn almost impishly dissolves the grandeur of the Sanctus in the secular gaiety of the Benedictus and then goes on to add stately fanfares to, of all things, the "Dona nobis pacem". Herbig caught the spirit nicely, and the spirit certainly caught the listener in this majestically broad interpretation of a visionary work.

Stephen Pettitt

LSO/Simonov Festival Hall

At first Yuri Simonov gave the impression that his experience as chief conductor at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow might overtake the nature of his programme with the London Symphony Orchestra on Monday. He began with a strongly dramatic approach to Tchaikovsky's Hamlet, as well he might, with a somewhat sentimental concern for the Ophelia

music and an almost operatic weight of mood and character elsewhere. Then he adjusted to a different focus to give warm and flexible support to Henryk Szeryng, the soloist in the same composer's Violin Concerto. Mr Szeryng gave a sedate, even cautious performance, no longer seeking to dazzle us with passage work or to make rhythm his springboard, while the first movement cadenza became more a matter of tactical placing of the notes. Yet such was the sweetness of

his tone and the smoothness of his line that the canzonetta movement seemed to arrive with the closing part of the first movement, and what followed then took on a more ruminative character, a meditation of its own to replace the one Tchaikovsky discarded. A vigorous but modestly placed finale, buoyant but not at all boisterous, rounded off a concerto that has seldom sounded so well mannered. Mr Simonov had firm and persuasive ideas about Beeth-

oven's Fifth Symphony. He presented it from the outset as a brisk and almost self-perpetuating challenge, with a slow movement spun out on a measured pulse to convey the beauty of the musical thought. A gesture of pulling his hands away behind his back to cut off a chord produced snappy results in the orchestra, whose woodwind excelled in the scherzo and whose confident response made the finale a declaration of faith. Noël Goodwin

Noël Goodwin

Rock/Jazz

Paul Young Lyceum

Crawford/Newman Ronnie Scott's

Paul Young's version of Marvin Gaye's "Wherever I Lay My Hat", an emphatic number one hit earlier this year, combined a fine song, a glisteningly simple arrangement and Young's affecting blue-eyed soul voice into a 45 of such class that it will still be turning up regularly on Radio 1 by the time the next century rolls around, reminding housewives of the last dance at the disco in the summer of '83.

inflation Young may have attempted. Apart from the hit singles, only a surprising rearrangement of Dusty Springfield's "I Close My Eyes and Count to Ten" - Vanilla Fudge meet the Four Tops - rose above the good-humoured shambles. Young might do well to revert to some of the methods of his old soul-revival band, the Q-Tips, whose stage show did better service to their music and to his voice. No such reservations apply at Ronnie Scott's where Hank Crawford and David "Fathead" Newman, two saxophone-playing veterans of the Ray Charles bands of the 1960s, are defining the blues. Crawford, in fact, spends most of his time at an electric piano, only occasionally rising to blow a rousing chorus on his alto. Newman, dark-suited and statuesque, reaffirms the primacy of the tenor instrument in this wholeheartedly masculine music.

But the surprise is their guitarist, Calvin Newborn, a wholly original stylist whose high-speed lines take off at audacious tangents, whirring about until they plip satisfyingly down on the reassuring platform provided by the purring bass of Chucho Merchan.

Richard Williams

London debuts

Rising skilfully to fresh challenges

Much instrumental skill was evident among the dozen or so players of the Grosvenor Chamber Group when they came together under Keith Burston for a lunchtime concert at the city church of St Vedast alias Foster. Most of them have been recent soloists in the annual "Young Artists and Twentieth Century Music" series given by the Park Lane Group, now facing a different kind of challenge in the discipline of ensemble playing.

There was engaging freshness in the elegance, formality and graceful spirit of Mozart's Eine kleine Nachtmusik, for instance, with Barber's Adagio becoming a study in string sonority at different dynamic levels, and Grieg's Holberg Suite benefiting from rhythmic articulation, in particular. Miss Brown played virtuoso violin solos for Vivaldi's The Four Seasons, while directing with a toss of the head or a flourish of the bow the well-proportioned character of the orchestral entries.

To hear Schumann's Liederkreis, Op 24, sung at the Purcell Room by a counter-tenor, Mário Marques, brought a strange kind of neurosis to the relationship of voice to verse, and to the sentiments expressed. That it was also attractive was due to the rich tone-quality of the singer. The performance reflected an instinctive commitment to Schumann's romantic feeling, with tactful support from Diana Wright in not letting the piano override the sense of the verses. Her earlier accompaniment to Purcell and Handel was more prosaic, but the singer's rhythmic verve and smooth legato were adorned with flexible embellishment, heard to best effect in Handel's "Mortals think that time is sleeping", and signalling an artist of rare sensibility. Stewart Buchanan's debut

recital at the Wigmore Hall, as the 1982 winner of the National Federation of Music Societies award, also enabled him to commission Edward McGuire's Clogsong as a new work for his repertory. These mostly evoked associations with Glasgow, their joint birthplace, but the disparate images and thoughts lacked sustained musical connections for the harmonic and vocal character of each one. The baritone's operatic experience was heard to advan-

Noël Goodwin

Television

The risks of alienation

Last night Channel 4 devoted half an hour at family viewing time to a second series from the International Broadcasting Trust, a body representing Oxfam, War on Want, the WEA, NUPE, the TGWU, the WEA, NUPE and the race relations organizations. After pronouncements from a variety of talking heads Utopia Limited offered a report on a group of middle-aged people in Norwich playing a homespun game about international morality, and then a report on a class of south London girls whose project on Mexico was being wonderfully enlivened by the presence of a charismatic Mexican dancer. After cavedropping on a political education class for unemployed Merseyside work-

ers the programme exhorted viewers to use it as a springboard for group action. As a Southampton carpenter said of his membership of one such group: "I now have more affinity for the Third World than I ever had before." Since the accompanying Action and Study Guide includes a survey form (what a shame such things were not issued for Channel 4's Orestia) let me fill it in. "The series raised issues which concern me": agree strongly. "I learnt a lot from the programme": disagree moderately. "The presentation of the programme was generally good": disagree strongly. The presentation, in fact, was a cross between Open Univer-

sity and This Week's Good Cause, and the overall impression was pedestrian. One might argue that this does not matter, that the sort of people who will be taking down the phone numbers at the end are not the sort to be impressed by racism. One might argue, on the other hand, that programmes like this alienate the people they most need to convert over: the past 10 years dozens of documentary makers have shown how the job can be done. Let us hope the former view is right, and that by the time it has finished the series will have attracted hundreds of new and active recruits to its supremely important crusade. Michael Church

ENO advertisement for Spring 1984 Subscription Season. Includes text: 'CHOOSE YOUR SAVING... with ENO's Spring 1984 Subscription Season. Up to 3 operas FREE... 7 different schemes... Postal booking open - tel: 01-336 2699 for FREE SUBSCRIPTION LEAFLET. Spring 1984 productions: Lo Trovato Verdi, The Barber of Seville Rossini, The Turn of the Screw Britten, The Mostersingers of Nuremberg Wagner, Patience Gilbert and Sullivan, The Sicilian Vespers Verdi, The Magic Flute Mozart.

ENO advertisement for cancelled Orfeo and Rienzi. Includes text: 'ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA LONDON COLISEUM. CANCELLED Tomorrow (20 Oct) Orfeo Friday (21 Oct) Rienzi. English National Opera regret that these performances have been cancelled. REFUNDS can be obtained in person - or by post - from the Box Office, London Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES. THE PERFORMANCE OF ORFEO on 26 & 28 October and of RIENZI on 1 & 4 November remain as advertised.'

SPECTRUM

Tibet's second city turned out in force three weeks ago to watch the trial and executions of five men and a young woman. Afterwards, wall posters describing their crimes were pasted up, each marked with a large red tick: job completed. But were the dead men merely criminals, as the posters alleged, or political dissidents, as the Dalai Lama's office claimed? From Tibet, David Hewson reports

Buddha and bullets

On September 27, a small group of Westerners stumbled out of the heavy sleep which the Tibetan altitude induces and walked rather dozzily into the makings of an international incident.

It was a typical September morning at 12,000 ft on the roof of the world. The sun bore down on Xigatse, Tibet's second city, with the piercing brightness only possible in an atmosphere starved of oxygen and lacking the pollution of modern civilization.

We were puzzled by what we saw. Tashilumpo monastery, traditional seat of the Panchen Lama, second only to the Dalai in the old Tibetan theocracy, was nearly deserted. A few craftsmen sat around making clay Buddhas, and a handful of elderly monks shuffled about in their maroon robes, replenishing the yak butter lamps which guttered in the temples.

There is a prefecture meeting," said the Tibetan guide, who came from a pro-Chinese family. "It is nothing

important. The bank is closed, and the shops too. And the free market. Would you like to see the Brahmaputra river instead?"

On the way, we saw around 30,000 people, some three quarters of the town's population, bustling past the monastery gates in an excited mood, like a Bank Holiday crowd on the way to the fair. Children gazed expectantly from their fathers' shoulders; hawkers plied their wares through the heaving throng which was headed in the direction opposite to ours.

"It is just a sort of local authority meeting," said the Chinese guide who had accompanied us from Peking. "Would you like a ride on a yak-skin boat?" A few hours later two trucks drove past us. In the back of each stood a party of white-jacketed Chinese policemen looking rather like starved waiters from a lesser restaurant. They held rifles with fixed bayonets over an assorted company of young men and women seated miserably on the truck floor. For all the last-minute evasion of our hosts, they had overlooked one thing. The picturesque rural community on the outskirts of Xigatse, where we had been taken to watch peasants thresh corn as if they were auditioning for Breughel, was on the main road to the town prison.

The day's events, which had attracted so much excited public attention, were nothing so mundane as a meeting of the local council. Xigatse had been transfixed by a public meeting of the people's court. And those pathetic figures who had been driven past us were the lucky ones: six of their fellow criminals had died that very morning, before the huge crowd,

killed by single bullets through the back of the neck from a policeman's revolver.

By mid-afternoon, wall posters, in Chinese and Tibetan, appeared on walls throughout the town. Red crosses through the names of the six condemned, five men and one woman, indicated the death sentence. A large red tick across the whole poster meant that it been carried out. According to the posters the crimes ranged from murder - two of those who died, including a 28-year-old woman, were convicted of killing their lovers - to repeated theft and black market activities. Nowhere on the posters was the slightest indication that the condemned had committed political offences, though the Chinese have never in the past shied away from publicly announcing that they have executed counter-revolutionaries. Since widely-publicized executions are by no means uncommon in China at the moment during the present virulent campaign against theft, corruption and black marketeers, the Xigatse deaths seemed to fit into a well-established pattern.

A few days later, the office of the exiled Dalai Lama announced that six individuals had been executed in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa as dissidents, three days after the events in Xigatse. Under the heading "Buddhists Executed For Their Faith", the Dalai Lama's office claimed that 3,000 Tibetans had been arrested, of whom 1,000 now faced execution. Anti-Chinese riots in Nepal had ensued, and close aides of the Dalai Lama indicated that the visit to Lhasa which he had

been planning for 1985 had now been set back by several years.

But how believable is the Tibetan exiles' version of events? Last week in London, I told the Dalai Lama's acting representative Mr Phuntsog Wangyal of the executions in Xigatse and showed him photographs of the death sentences posted after the event.

Mr Wangyal said that as far as the Dalai Lama's office was aware only six executions had taken place in Tibet in recent weeks, and they were the ones in Lhasa. The office had no information about the identity of those allegedly shot, though it had earlier issued a press release saying that the Tibetan scholar Geshe Lobsang Wangchuk was "probably" among the victims.

Tibetan exiles naturally shy away from revealing the source of their intelligence information, but it is known that much of it comes from itinerant Tibetans and Nepalese who travel the road between Kathmandu in Nepal and Lhasa, halfway along which is Xigatse. The clear inference from the known facts now available from Tibet must be either that the Xigatse executions, which were witnessed by around 30,000 people, went unreported to the Tibetan exile organization, even though they occurred much closer to their Nepalese base than the alleged Lhasa incident, or that the events in Xigatse were distorted into the version eventually released to the Western press.

Neither explanation reflects well on the exiles or the Chinese. The gulf between the Dalai Lama and Peking now appears as large as it has ever been since the Buddhist leader fled the country in 1959. If that gulf is

predicated, to a large extent, on a misunderstanding, the fault must lie as much with the Chinese as with the exiles. Peking may have admitted to grave errors in its past treatment of Tibet, but it has simply replaced the old policy of ruthless domination with a haughty paternalism, backed by the presence of between 100,000 and 200,000 Chinese troops. Tibetans are being encouraged to enter the civil service - but only those who are good communists.

Religious freedom has, to some extent, been reinstated, though the old medieval theocracy is still officially damned. The Chinese have reluctantly come to believe that they cannot shake the primeval faith of the Tibetan people. Today, as they have done for hundreds of years, pilgrims travel thousands of miles to prostrate themselves before the splendour of Jokhang Temple in the centre of Lhasa, some of them from the most primitive areas, fervently praying that they might die in front of the temple in order to gain assured entrance into heaven.

The occupation costs the Chinese dearly, at least one million yuan (£330m) a year, excluding the price of the military. And in return for what? The Tibetans may accept the odd crumb of modern living thrown their way in the form of Western medicine and the occasional tractor, but at heart they remain as wedded as ever to their belief in the Dalai Lama. The conflict is not simply between the Chinese and the Tibetans. It is between the material and the spiritual. Perhaps that is why both sides find themselves so lost when they step into each other's territories.



moreover... Miles Kington Torch songs in the Crescent City

New Orleans People talk about the danger of Venice sinking below the sea. That's nothing. New Orleans has already sunk below the sea. Most parts of the city are about eight feet below sea level - always have been - and if you have ever dug a sand castle in a few lying part of the beach, you will know this creates a problem with seepage and inflow. In the case of New Orleans it causes \$19m worth of problems every year, that being the money needed just to keep the city where it is, and dry.

It is all the fault of the French, of course, who built it in such soggy surroundings in the first place. So soggy that for a century or more it was thought lunacy to build any houses more than four storeys high. Even now the tall blocks in downtown New Orleans have to have huge concrete piers reaching way down into the earth before they even start to think of building the lobby, while the French Quarter next door preserves its old low European roofing, with church spires the highest things to be seen.

It seems odd that in such a wet place the biggest hazard is fire. Just before the place was sold to America by Napoleon there had been two enormous fires, claiming a thousand houses in all, and it was the Spaniards, owners of the city just before Napoleon, who did most of the rebuilding in brick instead of wood, which means that very little of the French Quarter is actually French. When the Americans started moving into their new property there was a plan to move the French Quarter being all the city there was and the French, as is their wont, not much disposed to make room for them.

So the Americans, as is their wont, started building with tremendous energy next door and for a while there was a French city with an American Quarter. That quarter grew into the Garden District, a stunning area of such grand houses in such a dizzy variety of styles that even the guide book gives up trying to describe them and settles for terms like "Revived Greek Revival". One house in a direct copy of "The House of the Wind" is about the smallest house in the district, which, if the truth be known, is far grander and more impressive than the French Quarter.

The last big fire in the letter was 10 years ago, when 34 people died in a bar on Chartres Street. There was another fire last week on Bourbon Street, when a tea-shed shop burnt out, and you can still smell the scent of autumn bonfires in the area. The firemen were able to control it quickly, because they have been trained to memorize the area's ramshackle geography, but as the local councilman said, mysteriously: "We were almost forced to learn a hard lesson there."

Last week was, ironically, Fire Prevention Week: even more ironically, it produced more fires than usual and the city fire chief is now investigating the theory that having a Fire Prevention Week acts as a challenge to arsonists and pyromaniacs.

You might have thought it possible somehow to tip all that water just below the surface to create a city-wide system of fire sprinklers, especially now when all the streets in the French Quarter have been dug up for relaying. As one local magazine put it, the area has been ravished in preparation for next year's World's Fair, and though I think they meant "lavaged", they've captured the right mix of eagerness and dread with which the New Orleansians are greeting that event.

One of the houses I should hate most to see go is Gallier House, named after the architect who built it in 1857 with such modern gimmicks as hot and cold running water. Having finished his own house, he proceeded to build the French Opera House, which for decades was the centre of social life.

"It was still standing when I was a little girl," said the old lady who took us round. "I shall always remember it because my mother promised to take me to my first opera one Saturday, but I never got there."

Why not? "It burnt down the Wednesday before, December 4, 1919."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 179)

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for words. The grid is 13 squares wide and 13 squares high.

- ACROSS: 1 Large African tree (6), 4 Cattle skin (2,4), 7 Talk off (4), 8 Transitory (8), 9 Close and muggy (8), 12 British peace corps (1,1), 15 Challenge (6), 16 Bluntly (6), 17 Game of it (3), 19 School session (4,4), 24 Oblivion (8), 25 Worthless people (4), 26 Serviceable (6), 27 Sailor (6). DOWN: 1 Portland (4), 2 Ready to wear (3,3), 3 Harmonize (5), 4 Further (5), 5 Heave (4), 6 Board across (5), 10 Dark period (5), 11 Fermenting fungus (1,1), 12 Handbook (4,5), 13 Straight-headed antelope (4), 14 Sword handle (4), 18 Assumed name (5), 20 Conjure up (5), 21 Zoroastrian priest (5), 22 Action word (4), 23 Gulf saltwater (4).

SOLUTION TO No 178 ACROSS: 1 Kibosh 5 Toons 8 Goyim 9 Lobster 11 Eccentric 13 Ounto 15 Solitaire 18 Brit 19 Sick 22 Dope 23 Slip 24 Drag 25 Sun god DOWN: 2 Lilt 3 Ome 4 Tumbler 5 Tumbler 6 Eternity 7 Agle 8 Room 12 Gold 14 Wick 15 Snapper 16 Aled 17 Steps 20 Igloo 21 Berg 23 Jun

Cheers, tears and Red Cross parcels



In the disease-ridden camps alongside the River Kwai, 1945 opened to the dawn of Allied aircraft and the wall of Japanese air-raid sirens. The bombers were seeking to destroy the Burma-Siam railway which the prisoners had been forced to build for their captors. This concluding extract from the secret diary of Dr Robert Hardie, written on stolen scraps of paper over a period of three years and hidden in a hospital vacuum flask, describes the medical officer's view of the final months of the war, as the Allied advance drew nearer.

FEBRUARY 22, 1945

Workers who have been going to Tamarkan to do repairs and to ferry material across the river pending repairs, report that the steel bridge is completely kaput and has been abandoned, two spans being dropped in the water by the last attack. Repairs are being carried out on the wooden bridge, and it is said that it will be working again before long.

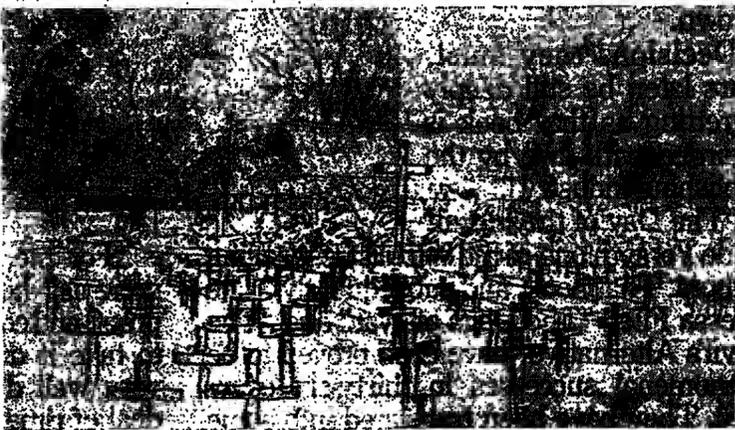
MARCH 13, 1945

An order has been issued that all knives and cut-throat razors have to be handed in to the Japanese. Furthermore, tomorrow all pens and ink are to be handed in, under threat of severe reprisals if any are found thereafter in the camp. So I think I shall bury this pen, in a sealed bottle - I may be able to recover it later. I shall have to use pencil henceforward - until they are all called in too.

APRIL 1, 1945

Aeroplane about at breakfast time. One came directly overhead as I was frying an egg and a piece of rice bread, and dropped a cloud of leaflets. They were carried away from the camp by the wind, but a copy came into the camp later. There were some anti-Nip cartoons; the letterpress was in Burmese - suitable for April I perhaps. We wonder whether the RAF think this is Burma? After lunch nine prisoners, wounded in a recent attack up near the line near Wampo, arrived down by diesel truck. One died shortly after arrival. A couple needed amputations. One was a Queensland aborigine, always a most cheerful and willing worker his comrades say. He will do all right.

These men were on a working party on the railway line near the Wampo viaduct, which they say was badly smashed up about a week ago; but the Nip in charge would not allow them to take cover, although there was plenty of time for the plane circled around twice before attacking. They had to go on



The cemetery at Chungkai, sketched by Dr Hardie

MAY 30, 1945

All sorts of fantastic rumours, but in the absence of definite information from the Japanese we don't have any certain news. The up-river camps are very fertile sources of rumours - landings here, there and everywhere - which don't lose anything on their journey down here. Up-river camps on the railway are seeing large numbers of Japs, military and civil, some in very bad condition, coming down the railway out of Burma.

APRIL 3, 1945

This morning between 9 and 11 am a number of four-engined bombers attacked Tamarkan bridge again. A good deal of damage was done to the wooden bridge, they say. Pamphlets were also dropped, giving a rough map of Burma, which shows our advance progressing - a cheerful sight. We heard the sound of bombs up-river also.

APRIL 17, 1945

Yesterday's theatre performance (simple songs and turns) was suddenly interrupted by Turbine, who strode up to the stage in the middle of one of the early turns, slapped the surprised performers in the face and said that there must be no turns, only orchestral music. It was a surprise, because the script of the show had as usual been submitted to him for censoring and had been returned without comment. The show of course fizzled out. The performers say Ishikura was rather tight when he waded in to them. Today orders have been issued that the theatre building is to be pulled down. The theory is, I think, that the Japs feel it is wrong for us to sing and be cheerful when Japan is in difficulties.

MAY 30, 1945

We think the Nips are holding about 50 more cases, some of which contain drugs desperately needed, but we have not been able to get them as yet. We know they are there, because our own people unloaded them into the Nips' store and had time in glance at some of the lists of contents.

JUNE 28, 1945

In the weeks since my last entry, we have all left Chungkai camp and come down to Tamarkan.

AUGUST 11, 1945

There are rumours of all sorts - of terrific air raids in Japan, of peace feelers, of phenomenal advances. There are rumours of more Red Cross stuff for us at Bangkok. We have actually had 30 cases of American Red Cross drugs handed over to us by the Nips in the last few days.

AUGUST 25, 1945

Discipline in the camp has been good since the Nipponeese ceased to be our masters... one must admit that the Japanese have behaved with great restraint.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1945

Sick men from up-country are coming down as fast as they can be brought, and the shocking condition in which many of them arrive revivifies one's feelings of animosity against the Japanese, which had sunk quite low, seeing them so submissive and orderly and now harmless.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1945

Dakota transport planes have dropped good supplies of milk and food, drugs and clothes, blankets - everything we need. Representatives from the airborne troops that have been landed in Bangkok have come out to us here; a doctor too, from the outside world. Men are now being taken in to Bangkok by train mostly, to be flown out to Rangoon and the wide world again.

JANUARY 1, 1945

Nearly 2,000 men have now come over to this camp from Tamarkan. A great many of them have malaria - there has been a very serious shortage at Tamarkan of quinine, and no plasmoquine. Our position here, with this great influx of men with fever, is pretty desperate too. The Japanese say they are very short of quinine and are having difficulty in getting it. One has heard this story before, put forward to cover mere indifference - but of course it might be true.

FEBRUARY 14, 1945

Yesterday evening there was a heavy raid on the bridge. There was a good deal of cannon and machine-gun firing. We got fine views of the big bombers as they went in and circled round. The anti-aircraft fire did not seem to worry them. Two big American planes swept low over this camp, and we could see the people on board. We do not yet know what damage was done at the bridge, but at dawn today the Nips sent 150 men over from here to start repairs.

Coloof Sapasawa is coming to this camp again "on inspection" in the next day or two. Last time he merely walked quickly through the camp. But in fear lest he should look into the hospital, Nobusawa today went through it himself and insisted on discharging all the men who, he thought, "looked too well". Two of his choices were men with almost complete paralysis of the legs - totally unable to walk. This was pointed out to him, but he said they must go out of hospital, as they "looked fit".

Abridged from The Burma-Siam Railway: The Secret Diary of Dr Robert Hardie, published on October 25 by Imperial War Museum Publications, price £9.95

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

هكذا من راحل

When we arrive at the Comedy Theatre to see *Little Shop of Horrors* on a preview matinee, we notice from the programme slip that Ellen Greene won't be singing as she has strained her voice; her understudy will play the part instead. What a shame, whispers the foyer, poor girl and the show not even open yet. Then we hear that the understudy has only had an hour's rehearsal with the whole cast. What an experience, we all shudder, poor girl and such a full house. Understudies are pretty remarkable people though; constantly ready to mobilize and seldom required to do so, simmering, par-boiled, with only a few hours' warning to produce a cordon bleu performance. In the event, the show was a rare pleasure, and the understudy, tottering about on four-inch heels, sang like an angel and was greeted with roars of delight. What a comfort for the splendid Miss Greene to know that she has Claire Moore in the wings if the going gets rough; and what a spur to theatre producers to know that in Miss Moore they have a comedienne and a singer who should probably step out of the shadows and star in her own show.

A lot of writing to do: serious deployment of delaying tactics. Having polished everything in sight, I seized on the notion of washing my bedroom curtains. The pad and pencils waited in the writing room, laid out neatly as in a formal examination, quietly reproachful through the open door. These are the facts: they are actually old curtains, which happened to fit the windows, with new curtains grafted on to them, so the old ones became the lining. If I change the colour schemes, I shall simply buy more stuff and sew it on top of these ones, gradually draughtproofing the house by creating eiderdown-sized hangings at the windows. When the curtains came out of the job washing machine, the lining (or understudy) curtains, which are green, had grown about six inches. My intention was to dry them on a clothes line, but I was simply to hang them up again damp, and let them, air over the radiator which, being October, has just been activated and is so hot that the paint is beginning to squeak and crack. The only way to rehang them on the window rings, with bloodless arms plucking feebly at the flimsy hooks, was to fold them loosely on my head



and stand half on the bookcase and half on the scalding pipes. I pulled the hems of the newer curtains, both to make them grow and to iron them but they couldn't match the green ones which hang down like wet knickers. Two hours later, they were bone dry, the rising heat having puffed and crisped the two halves so they are like giant sammosas or huge unbidable spinnakers.

Things I wish I hadn't heard: that Elvis Presley's hair was pure white when he died (or so his hairdresser

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

A star steps out of the shadows

said on the wireless). Things I wish hadn't happened: the button of my mackintosh getting into the wire mesh of a supermarket basket, so I couldn't get it out, or the basket on to the till or my goods out of the basket. At one point I thought I might have to go home with a basket hanging from my front.

Almost every day there is another revelation about our eating habits; every discovery agrees that we eat too much meat. Those of us who have known this for years prick up our ears and sniff the wind to see if the threat to humans of an early death or great famines can slow down the avalanche of slaughtered beasts, now

reckoned to be about 200,000 a minute. Those of us who have given up meat altogether are viewed with some suspicion; but watch us go, brains firing on all cylinders, clear-eyed, humorous, narrow-waisted and energetic! Richard North's new book, *The Animals Report*, should be read in all homes and schools, parliaments and religious establishments. It is an unscientific study of animals and how we treat them in zoos, farms and laboratories. I don't think people will ever give up eating animals altogether; but the evidence is now too clear for us to ignore. It is obviously bad for us to eat so many, only die something. But growing up is strange. I suppose I am now firmly

majority. At the end of this short life, we must meet our Maker; the first big shock will be the rage in heaven at our calculated and spectacular abuse of His finest creations: the second will be to find that God Himself is not human.

A great wave of birthdays of my favourite people, this month and next. How strange that we know people born in clumps. They are all remarkably dissimilar, and again I am uneasy about the veracity of zodiacal signs. When my hair was longer than Doris/Lucille, a positive mane and blonde, I used to claim I was a Leo just to hear them say "Of course, I could tell at once", when in fact I am a short-legged, home-loving Taurus, thick-set and hedonistic (or so the chart would have me believe). This month's people are Librans, of the Balance. If my tall, even-natured son had been born at his appointed hour he would have been a Scorpio, and American women would have changed seats rather than sit next to him on an aeroplane. Instead he was born on the sixteenth day of October sixteen years ago, and the balance tipped at only 4lb something. But growing up is strange. I suppose I am now firmly

in the realms of adulthood, although having questioned my age group, I find we expect the real grown-ups to run important things and we will help out, like senior prefects. Today's children watch us with impatient amusement from the french windows while we dance on and on, straps slipping, thin hair flying, until the music changes and we are bundled off to get our coats while they take their partners. Tiptoeing past the door to our carriages, we see that our golden successors are already fading to grey, as the children of tomorrow and tomorrow stroll on the lawns, waiting their turn. The world goes round and the road runs on.

I am about to go off duty for a while. I shall defrost the fridge, visit Vienna, start writing a television series, buy or sell the flat, make my own Christmas cards, grow or cut my hair and purchase a piano. I shall not stand for Parliament, fall asleep in the theatre, make long-term plans, stop smoking, emigrate or have a hair transplant. Before too long, I hope to be back here again; until then ave atque vale.

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TALKBACK

Insult to injury

From Mrs D R Pick, 7 Chinton Terrace, Budleigh Salterton, Devon

I read the report on Alzheimer's Disease (September 16) and would like to give a warning to wives who are caring for husbands with this distressing complaint. My husband is at an advanced stage of the disease so last year I decided that life would be easier for me if we moved to a smaller house. As all our assets are held jointly, I consulted a solicitor who said that I would have to apply to the Court of Protection so that a partner in the firm could sign the conveyance on my husband's behalf.

I received a great shock after the hearing when I received a letter from the solicitor to say that the court intended to close our bank accounts and invest the proceeds at its discretion along with other money we have invested. I shall also be required to submit accounts of all expenditure to the court. It would appear that the court can legally confiscate the wife's contributions along with the husband's, and then make charges for the service.

In view of the added stress and aggravation I have suffered over the last nine months, I think a wife in my position would be well advised to ask her husband to transfer his share of their assets to her at the onset of Alzheimer's disease or any other mentally crippling illness. I am in no doubt that my husband would have done this for me and that he would have been appalled if he'd known about this treatment.

Analysis can help

From Joan Hunter, psychotherapist, 25 Eton Rise, Eton College Road, London, NW3

As Caroline Moorhead's article (September 16) may have aroused fear as well as compassion, it seems important to mention that many people may experience disturbances while aging which can be successfully treated by therapy based on psychoanalytical theory.

Mr Brown, for instance, aged 83, had always seemed well able to cope, but was staying in bed, incontinent. The consultant resisted pressure to admit him to hospital and he was visited in his own home for 12 therapy sessions. Mr Brown's response was remarkable and he was able to resolve the inner conflict, which stemmed partly from unresolved grief, in the time allowed.

Mrs Smith, an intelligent woman, felt responsible when her husband died, doubting her own right to live. In just over two years the burden of guilt was sufficiently lightened for therapy to end.

Self-fulfilling pap

From Mrs Sue Wood, 33 Gills Hill, Radlett, Hertfordshire

How I agree and sincerely sympathize with the views expressed by Carol Sarder (Friday Page, October 14), former editor of *Honey*. Not only are women's magazines dominated by male management teams, so are the horrendous comics for teenage girls.

These papers continually suggest that girls are failures if they don't look pretty for their boyfriend. Right from the start, girls are given the impression that they exist only in so far as they are noticed by the opposite sex.

No wonder many women only want "fashion and beauty spiced with a bit of emotion and romance", if they have been fed on this rubbish.

Vogue figures

From F. C. Beach, deputy managing director, Conde Nast Publications, Vogue House, Hanover Square, London W1

I have just read the piece by Carol Sarder (Friday Page, October 14), "My sour taste of *Honey*", and must point out that she makes a completely erroneous statement relating to the circulation of *Vogue*.

The current circulation of *Vogue* (ABC Jan/June 1983) is 165,836, the highest since 1965, since when the circulation has risen steadily year by year.

To the manor grown

Picture a commanding woman and two national figures spring to mind. The second of these, bet, will be Penelope Keith. It is entirely fitting that this talented actress has risen to fame during the Thatcher years, proving that, deep down, a number of us need to be in the thrall of a woman with a carrying voice and Home Counties assurance. Whether this assurance is inherited or acquired is sometimes hard to tell; recently we've become aware that nobody is quite as they seem.

In the case of actresses, however, this is as it should be. After all, they deal in masks. Penelope Keith made her name with a succession of bossy, upper-class types, each distinct and each horribly recognizable. Sarah in *The Norman Conquests*, Margot in *The Good Life* and Audrey in *To the Manor Born*, a show that attracted 28 million viewers. Such was their familiarity that Penelope Keith was presumed to be like that. When seen in bed with Ian McKellan in the film *The Priest of Love* the newspapers screamed: "Audrey, what are you doing?"

"I used to be annoyed," says Miss Keith "but I don't mind now. I've realized that it was not believable. I must have been doing my job properly."

Because she isn't like that, of course. Not quite. She was, indeed, born in Surrey, an only child, and now lives in stockbroker Sussex. She has a creamy, well-bred complexion - "I may not have much else, but I do have good skin". And in her dressing room among the make-up and wigs, there is a pair of stout wellies and a dog bowl.

But there the resemblance

ends. Her voice is extravagant, but it has the bracing quality found in theatrical rather than headscarf circles. And though she adores her corgi, she cites as fellow corgi-fanciers not royalty but her old friend Ava Gardner.

For she is an actress through and through, a hundred per cent showbiz pro, who for many years toiled her way up through the hardest of apprenticeships, working in rep for £7 a week "in those bring-your-own-clothes days", doing understudies and walk-ons, waiting months for the phone to ring, and being familiar with the silent part of the "third citizen". When she made it to Stratford she played everything from a whore to a tree. "The others all played lovely floaty goddesses and I stood there like this", she demonstrates, "with a bit of bark on my head". Then in her late 30s came the big break: Wanda in *Kate*, then *The Norman Conquests* and on to *The Good Life*.

Now she is playing another variant of the dominating woman in *Sweet Sixteen*, currently showing on BBC TV. This time, however, it is a modern, more liberated version, who has an affair with a man 16 years her junior.

Such is her popularity nowadays that she can pack any theatre. This is invigorating for the West End. As she says, television has not killed the theatre, any more than it has killed reading - it stimulates people to go out and see the star in the flesh.

"But it has raised expectations", she says, "which is no bad thing. The standard on TV is so high that the live product - hateful word - has to be good."

This is a challenge she rises to meet. She herself is happy working for either medium, whether trudging around in the mud of a building site for *Sweet Sixteen* or adjusting her subtle comic timing for a live audience, whose presence alters each performance.

Although once she might have thought herself plain, in her mid-40s she is now a handsome, radiant woman, visibly happy both in her professional and private life. The private happiness she attributes to Rodney, a young policeman who she married five years ago and on whom she obviously dotes. They met while she was playing in Chichester and he was on both duty. At the time the newspapers leapt upon this delightfully unlikely match, and there was also a certain amount of muck-raking. "He said he didn't mind, but I know he did. I did, for him. Thank heavens it's died down now. But it makes one cynical."

Recovered from this, Rodney is now the focus of her home life. "I cook and he eats", she says with a laugh. He is also increasingly involved in her career.

There is a certain yeasty confidence about her that obviously sees that things get done. Nowadays done by herself. In a remarkable step for an actress, she has set up her own production company, *Hay Fever*, which opens in London next week, is its first show. She is both its star and impresario.

"I'm not knocking producers, but their job is to raise money. There's often a gulf between them and the cast. And as an

actress I've often felt that I'm simply being used, like a racehorse with brains.

"There are certain things that a producer doesn't know much about - for instance, I know how to get the right person to do the wigs. I know what makes a play work - not just for the night but what makes it carry on well, or not so well, over the months of its run. As much, if not more, care must be taken then - strange things happen to you after four or five months in a show. I thought it would be good to mount a production from the actor's point of view.

"Then there's the marketing. It isn't just the readers of serious newspapers who come to the theatre, yet plays are only advertised in the heavies. Many producers are elitist - not in what sort of shows they mount, but what they presume its audience to be. I want to change that."

Such is her exuberance and authority, as she says this, that one believes her. She is riding high and is finding that there are indeed rewards in being the boss. Some are born to it, some have it thrust upon them. For others, like Penelope Keith, it is a role they've worked hard to earn.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are coming to see *Hay Fever* next week. This is a great honour. "I've told the cast they have to cut backwards", she says, shrieking with laughter. It's only a joke, of course. But with this mistress of disguise, you can't always tell when she's playing a part.

Deborah Moggach



Penelope Keith: "used like a racehorse with brains"

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Talking Chinglish

the stir-fried dishes warm as each is cooked.

The paper-wrapped chicken calls for deep frying. This is most economically done in a wok, which uses less oil than a saucepan. Have a heatproof pan or casserole handy to pour the boiling oil into when frying is completed.

Resist the very real temptation to try to prepare too many stir-fried dishes for one meal. Four, including fried rice and at least one vegetable dish, is as much as is feasible if they are to be served fresh. Begin with the rice which keeps warm quite well, and cook a vegetable dish last so that the crispness, which is the essence of Chinese vegetable cooking, is not lost.

A fillet of pork roasted in the Chinese style is especially easy. The marinade becomes a richly flavoured glaze and the boneless meat is carved into neat slices which are served fanned on a warm plate. Fillet of veal, loin of lamb or even fillet steak could be cooked in the same way with allowance made in the cooking time for a different thickness of meat.

Chinese roast pork
Serves four to six
680g (1½lb) fillet or tenderloin of pork

For the marinade
1cm (½ inch) cube fresh ginger
¼ tablespoon soy sauce
1½ tablespoons peanut (groundnut) oil
1½ tablespoons plum sauce
½ teaspoon salt

Crush the ginger in a garlic press and combine it with the remaining marinade ingredients. Add the pork and turn it in the marinade to coat all sides. Leave it to marinate for about

two hours, turning it once or twice.

Set the pork on a rack in a roasting tin and roast it in a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for 20 minutes, turning it once. Rest the meat in a warm place for 10 minutes before slicing it.

Fried rice
Serves four to six
450g (1lb) boiled rice
1 tablespoon salt
4 tablespoons peanut (groundnut) oil
2 spring onions, finely sliced
½ clove garlic, finely chopped
2 eggs, beaten
110g (4oz) shelled shrimps or prawns, cooked
110g (4oz) finely diced ham or pork
55g (2oz) peas
450g (1lb) boiled rice

Mix the rice with the salt and set it aside. Heat the wok and add 1 tablespoon of oil. Add the spring onions and garlic, stir and add the egg. Stir fry until the egg is cooked and turn it out of the wok. Add another tablespoon of oil to the wok then the prawns, ham or pork and peas. Cook them for a minute, before adding the remaining oil, the rice and the egg. Stir-fry, lifting the mixture to combine the ingredients well, for two minutes. Turn the fried rice into a warm serving bowl.

Crab with black bean and chilli is a strongly flavoured dish which can also be made with lobster, or with prawns, in or out of their shells. The cooked crab claws in their shells which Marks and Spencer have been selling recently are ideal for this dish.

Crab with black bean and chilli
Serves four to six
2 freshly cooked crabs weighing about 1kg (2lb 3oz) each, or 12 crab claws
2.5cm (1 inch) cube fresh ginger
2 teaspoons salt
2 tablespoons salted black beans
5 tablespoons light stock or water
2 tablespoons dry sherry
1 tablespoon soy sauce
¼ teaspoon tabasco sauce, or ¼ teaspoon chilli powder
5 tablespoons peanut (groundnut) oil
8 spring onions cut in 4cm (1½ inch) lengths

Separate the main top shell from the body of each crab. Crack the claws and shells. Chop each body into quarters and pull away the sack under the eyes which is attached to the

mouth. Grate finely or crush the ginger and mix it with the salt. Rub this mixture all over the pieces of crab and set it aside.

Soak the black beans in a cup of cold water for half an hour then drain them.

Combine the stock or water with the sherry, soy sauce and tabasco or ground chilli.

Heat the oil in the wok and when it is very hot add the onions and black beans. Stir-fry them for half a minute then add the crab and stir-fry it for four minutes. Pour the liquid mixture over the crab and stir-fry the dish for a minute more before turning it into a warmed bowl to serve.

Paper-wrapped chicken is warmly spiced but not hot, and calls for rice paper - the kind used on the bottom of macarons and ratarifas - which is deliciously crisp when fried.

Paper-wrapped chicken
Serves four to six
1½ teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon five-spice powder
1 teaspoon monosodium glutamate or taste powder (optional)
2 tablespoons oyster sauce
1 tablespoon cornflour
3 tablespoons peanut (groundnut) oil
4 boned and skinned chicken breasts
1 packet rice paper

OR for deep frying (peanut again)

Combine the sugar, salt, five-spice powder, monosodium glutamate or taste powder (if using), oyster sauce and cornflour and mix them to a smooth paste. Cut each chicken breast into six or eight diagonal slices of roughly equal size and turn them in the marinade to coat all sides. Leave them to marinate for at least an hour.

The next step is to wrap the chicken pieces into little rice-paper packets for deep-frying. A loosely rolled cylinder, the ends of which can be tucked in securely, is the easiest package to make: with small rectangles of rice paper. Pieces about 15cm (6 inches) by 10cm (4 inches) are about right.

Wrap the chicken as close to the time it will be fried as possible. Heat a good quantity of oil in a wok or pan to a temperature of 190/200°C (375/400°F), and fry the chicken, a few pieces at a time, for two to two-and-a-half minutes. Drain on absorbent kitchen paper and serve as quickly as possible.

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November issue out now

THE TIMES DIARY

Battle renewed

The camaraderie that marked the opening of the Turner exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris... The British Council's representative in France, that in response to the British choice of the recently restored The Field of Waterloo...

Not content to let matters rest there, the British selectors, who included Alan Bowness, director of the Tate Gallery, replied with The Exile and the Rock Limpet, Turner's portrait of a gloomy Napoleon on Elba.

The London School of Economics' proposed racehorse will be scratched while it is still only a gleam in its prospective owner's eyes... The ageing friend told the students' £10,000 windfall to such effect would be an 'obscenity' and called on the entire Labour group to attend tomorrow's student union meeting to vote the project down.

BARRY FANTONI



"But yesterday you wanted your bandages removed."

Beaux' art

Perhaps it was the excitement of being in the same room as Tom Wolfe, chronicler of "radical chic", and Peter York, who took Sloane Ringers into the mainstream, that caused one woman in the audience to faint while Wolfe was giving this year's T. S. Eliot Memorial Lectures at the University of Kent, York, who starts a series of lectures on Channel 4 next month, was also in the audience that heard Wolfe describe the clothes people in the art world wear. He himself was clad in his trademark uniform of white suit and Eton college shirt which, with his silky hair and tortoiseshell framed spectacles, give him the look of a dapper schoolboy. York, in a fine grey suit with cuffs and turn-ups blue in colour, waistcoat and narrow black suede shoes, was more like an anglicized teddy boy.

What both superstylists could have done with on a chilly walk across the campus to the senior common room was orthodox overcoats. Mrs Thatcher's ministerial changes have everywhere been seen as a shift to the right. It has not gone unnoticed that John Moore, the energetic new Financial Secretary to the Treasury, likes to keep a jar of President Reagan's favourite jelly beans in easy reach.

Speechless

Lord Franks told a nice story against himself at the Institute of Historical Research in London the other day about the invariably laconic Clement Attlee, the observance of whose centenary is concluded tonight. Attlee's taciturn presence was required in Washington in 1950 for a summit with President Truman on the Korean war. Afterwards, there was to be a regular meeting of Commonwealth ambassadors to Washington, which Lord Franks would convene in the dining room of the British embassy. Attlee was persuaded to attend in the hope that he might actually, for once, say something. Lord Franks, who also foods to economy in his use of words, forced himself to speak for 10 minutes on such thorny issues as the potential use of atomic weapons in Korea, reasoning that such a performance might warm Attlee up a bit.

At last, his ordeal at an end, the speaker turned to the guest of honour with an expectant "Prime Minister?" Came the reply: "Quite."

My observer at the socialist prime ministers' get-together in a beach resort hotel north of Athens tells me this was the first time the five socialist leaders of Portugal, Spain, Italy, France and Greece - known as "the sun-belt socialist" - had met as prime ministers. One visible difference from previous meetings was that the five were no longer in ties and shirt-sleeved. They wore jackets, although Italy's Bettino Craxi insisted on blue jeans with a disparate coat, and Spain's Felipe Gonzalez donned a windcheater (with shirt and tie) but made up for it by smoking cigars. I understand that other differences, over policy, were hardly less visible.

From deference to divergence: Michael Binyon charts the new mood



Why West Germany says stop

Bonn Is West Germany going neutralist? As demonstrators of all ages and classes take to the streets in thousands, the old question suddenly takes on a new urgency. For the new Nato missiles have not only caused alarm throughout the country, but they have smashed the postwar consensus on the fundamentals of the Federal Republic's existence - its security alliances, national interests and position in the Western world. Whatever reassurances the government gives its western allies, there is a feeling here that things have changed irrevocably. The peace movement is here to stay.

It is not simply that the opposition to deployment is fiercer and more deeply felt in West Germany than anywhere else in Nato. The peace movement, consisting of the young, the Greens, the churches, the trade unions and a large part of the country's intelligentsia, has its roots in the continuing trauma of the Second World War, the universal horror of those memories. The missile debate has assumed a new dimension. It has coincided with a revival of German feeling, a belief, especially on the left and among the young, that it is time for the country to assert itself more, stand up to the Americans and follow policies it believes to be in its own interest, even if Reagan's Washington does not. This feeling, crudely dubbed as left-wing nationalism though far removed from the old ideas of German nationalism, now has a dynamic of its own. It is beginning to sweep up in its wake people and politicians who have long subscribed to the Adenauer view of the Federal Republic anchored in the western alliance and the main European pillar of which transatlantic friendship rests.

Many people now believe that it is the Americans who are forcing the missiles on Germany. The Social Democrats in particular have forgotten that it was their own leader, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who campaigned long and hard to persuade the reluctant Americans to protect West Germany with missiles that could match the Soviet SS20s. Instead the party now speaks as though Washington wants the Pershings deployed at any cost in order to be able to wage a limited nuclear war on German soil.

It is no use the government or outsiders insisting that West Germany is bound by the Nato alliance, or pointing out that the new weapons are not quantitatively such a big change by comparison to those already stationed here. The Pershings have become symbols for all the other weapons. "Enough is enough", is the common response. A country already more thickly forested with instruments of war than any of its neighbours simply cannot go on piling up arms, people say. Such an attitude inevitably casts the Americans not in the role of protectors, but of occupiers. And the guilt-free generation, no longer burdened with the responsibility of fighting and losing a war, is beginning to resent the American presence. Its search for German roots and identity invariably collides with what is seen as the Americanization of German society - the obsessive materialism, the daily bombardment of the German language with English expressions, the whole postwar rebuilding of the Federal Republic in the American image.

remained more traditionally German, more Central European, in both sentiment and way of life. Few people, even the left-wingers, want their country to become like East Germany. But the dream of reunification - quietly dropped from the political vocabulary during the years of detente when it was seen as a stumbling block to closer relations with the East - has been revived, if changed. Now it is a dream as much of the left as it is of the right, only this time the left believes it is West Germany that must also change political direction, not just East Germany.

The argument thus moves towards neutralism - a distancing from Nato in order to give West Germany room to steer an independent policy, if possible deepening the dialogue with the Soviet Union. Such a development has of course long been a prime Soviet aim, and the Soviets are astute at using both sticks and carrots to entice West Germany to look East. But many Germans themselves recognize this as a familiar role in their history - more familiar perhaps than looking across the Atlantic and one that is already beginning to bring results in contacts at all levels between East and West Germany.

Already the missile debate has pushed the Social Democrats far along this road. The party has virtually decided on unconditional rejection of any deployment. But the leftward momentum is quickly taking it further. Herr Peter Glotz, the party manager, called recently for a "phased revision of the German role in Nato", and said Germans could not permit the unrestricted storage of nuclear weapons on their soil in the long term.

The peace movement has also moved ahead. Despite the huge

demonstrations, its leaders probably know they cannot now prevent the missiles arriving. But their protests have at least made it extremely difficult for any other West European government to opt for new nuclear weapons in the future. And the Bonn government, if it wants to restore any consensus in the increasingly polarized debate on security, German interests and the Atlantic alliance, will have to listen to the many voices speaking through the peace movement. That movement is already thinking about the next stage: the campaign to get the missiles taken away again, and with them perhaps some of the other weapons that foreign armies keep on German soil in both East and West.

The government and the Christian Democrats are standing firm by the western alliance. Indeed one of Chancellor Kohl's priorities has been to restore good relations with Washington. But even within these ranks there is a hint that the days are over of automatic German deference to the views of the Americans. The present government senses the mood of the country, and will not change this mood - simply by reaffirming a hard line towards the East. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, has said that time and again. And no one has made it so dramatically plain as the old lion of Bavaria, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, on his summer trip to East Germany.

The demonstrations do not mean that Germany is weakening in its resolve, or that it can no longer be relied on by its western partners. But they do show how deep down the missile debate reaches, how difficult the situation is here from that of countries more settled in their convictions about their future. How dangerous it is for others to ignore the new feelings surfacing now in Germany.

Attlee: the machine that worked

As the centenary year ends, Peter Hennessy and Andrew Arends contrast the use of the Whitehall apparatus by two prime ministers with radical intentions

The finest compliment paid to Clement Attlee in 1983, his centenary year, was probably made soon after the election victory which returned Mrs Margaret Thatcher to power with a majority of 144 - only two seats fewer than the landslide which put Attlee into Downing Street in 1945. Within a few weeks of their triumph at the polls the Conservatives felt the need to rubbish Attlee's legacy in their first post-election party political broadcast. To understand why we are now fighting a war against rising prices, it began, one has to return to 1945 when "the Attlee government committed itself to spending virtually half of what this country earned" in pursuit of the vision of a fairer society. In 1979 Mrs Thatcher reckoned she needed two terms (since extended to three) to undo Attlee's legacy, so robust were the statistics, institutions and, above all, the attitudes of mind established between 1945 and 1951.

Attlee's centenary has been a fairly quiet affair which ends with a reception this evening at New Zealand House in London. He would not have minded - he hated fuss. Yet his stock among historians, usually the final arbiters on these matters, is rising steadily. In 1945 Britain was broke. But the Attlee administration achieved big things - the welfare state, the efficient demobilization of five million men and women from the Armed Forces, a remarkable export-led recovery, Indian independence and the foundation of Nato. The sheer effectiveness of "Little Clem", as Ernest Bevin invariably called him, is evident not just in retrospect, but in the official papers of the administration now released from the Public Record Office.

From 1945 to 1951 Britain was governed by committee: the Cabinet and its committees, the engine room of central government, proliferated to a grand total of 454 (148 standing and 306 ad hoc). Yet it worked, and the model is still followed. North American observers of Whitehall are amazed at the continuity of the British Cabinet committee system, even under a mould-breaking prime minister like Mrs Thatcher. The Washington machine is refashioned each time a new man enters the White House.

It was his style to use a handful of strategic standing committees on economic policy, defence, home affairs (known at that time as the Lord President's committee) and the socialization (their phrase for public ownership) of industries, to handle the big issues that tended to persist through the lifetime of the minister.



ration, such as a dollar shortage and the nationalization programme. Beneath them was a host of lesser committees, like the production committee, chaired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to deal with the detailed implementation of policy and day-to-day developments. On big, one-off decisions - the production of a British atom bomb or the transition to independence of the Indian sub-continent - Attlee would commission a special group.

The workload and the gravity of the issues in what Lord Bullock, Bevin's biographer, has called the "decade of decisions" was staggering. Take the second week of January, 1947. In addition to the usual flow of Cabinet business, Attlee presided over five meetings of the India and Burma committees, the defence committee was preoccupied with Palestine, a special committee was established to prepare to put troops in the London meat-markets if lorry drivers refused to move the ration, and a tiny group of ministers, chaired by Attlee, known as GEN 163 met and decided that Britain would become a nuclear power despite the cutting-off of atomic collaboration by the Americans.

The second person a new Prime Minister sees on entering Number 10 (the first is the Principal Private Secretary) is the chief mechanic of the Whitehall machine, the Secretary of the Cabinet. He tells the new incumbent which items are the most urgent subjects for collective decision and suggests one or two standing committees which might be set up straight away. The smooth running of the machine and the reassuring ways of the Cabinet Secretary are very seductive for a newcomer.

Mrs Thatcher's engine room is a recognizable miniature of the Attlee model. In 1979 she cavilled when Sir John Hunt performed the ancient continuity rite. "Why do I need any Cabinet committees at all? I have ministers running their departments - let them decide," was her line. "Events," as one insider put it, "soon took care of that."



Attlee and supporters in his Lincoln constituency on the eve of the 1945 poll, and two key ministers who relieved him of some of the burdens of office. Top, Herbert Morrison, chairman of the committee on nationalisation, and Sir Stafford Cripps, who ran the production committee.

to a point Mrs Thatcher uses Lord Whitehall in this role, but she has not made a virtue of it and does not possess Attlee's sensitive touch at the tiller. Though she is a "small government" prime minister as opposed to a "big government" one like Attlee, rolling back the frontiers of the state requires, at least initially, just as powerful and efficient a Whitehall machine as a political programme based on extending those frontiers. Sir John Hoskyns, her former senior policy adviser, has recognized this. In his recent Institute of Directors lecture, he said: "Ministerial and official committees all too often degenerate into the goal-free trading of departmental views stockpiled from previous years."

Mrs Thatcher may recoil from the legacy of 1945-51, but when it comes to the mechanics of political achievement - getting from where you are today to where you want to be in five years - she has a great deal to learn from "Mr Attlee's engine room". Mr Attlee's Engine Room: Cabinet Committee Structure and the Labour Governments, 1945-51 by Peter Hennessy and Andrew Arends is published today. (Strathclyde Papers on Government and Politics No. 26, Politics Department, Strathclyde University, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ, £3.50).

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Put us on the right track, minister

It's an ill wind. However, wretched the circumstances of last weekend's Cabinet reshuffle - and they don't come much more wretched in my book - there's one aspect of it which gives me unalloyed pleasure: the elevation of Nicholas Ridley to the Cabinet as Transport Secretary.

It was long overdue, and goes to prove that in the fickle world of politics ability against the odds is still occasionally rewarded. Although he comes from one of the great Tory families of the north of England, Ridley has had to fight every inch of the way.

Before the 1970 election he played a key role in shaping the Tory party's approach to industrial policy; yet within two years, when the climate changed, he was dispatched without ceremony to the back benches. In the later 1970s he conducted a series of brilliant and entertaining one-man parliamentary forays to expose the follies of the Callaghan government's so-called "industrial strategy". Yet when the 1979 government was formed he was appointed - to the surprise of some of us - to the Foreign Office and given charge of the apparent backwater of Latin America. Had a handful of loudmouths on the backbenches not succeeded in ditching his plans for a Hongkong solution for the Falklands, there might have been no Falklands war: but they did.

As Financial Secretary to the Treasury he then carried perhaps the heaviest workload of the hardest-worked of all departmental teams (I write with feeling). And throughout it all he has consistently demonstrated that ministers can be more than Jim Hackers if they have the character for the task. He would be an asset to any Cabinet.

Having got that deserved - panegyric off my chest, I have a little task for him. One of the early acts of the first Thatcher government was to set up a London Docklands Development Corporation under the chairmanship of Mr Nigel Brookes of Trafalgar fame, to bring life back to a part of the East End which the dockers (with judicious last assistance from the likes of Mr Jack Jones and Lord Aldington) had turned into something of a desert. And one of the early conclusions of Mr Brookes and his coporation was that you could not develop the docklands unless first you could get to the docks. Which, by existing public transport, oo the whole you could not.

So it was decided that the docklands must have a railway of one sort or another. What emerged eventually was a plan for a light rail transit system to connect the Isle of Dogs to Tower Hill in one direction and Stratford in the other, at a cost of £77m.

London Transport duly promoted a private Bill, which is now before the House of Lords, and which - all being well - should get the royal assent before Christmas. Thereafter the LDDC will be going out to tender. And this is where the plot thickens.

London Transport has set its heart on a scheme to use existing railway track linked up where necessary by specially-built street tramway tracks, and there are a number of contenders to supply such a system, involving steel wheel

on steel rail technology. There is, however, a rival proposition promoted by a consortium headed by Lord Plummer, the former Tory leader of the GLC. This would be based on the technology developed by the French group Matra for the city of Lille, involving a specially-constructed track to carry cars in pairs on rubber wheels.

According to Lord Plummer and his men their scheme would be swifter, cheaper and more economical while vastly reducing noise nuisance. Since it would be entirely computerized to eliminate the need for drivers and manpower to couple on additional units in the rush hour, it could be operated to produce a commercial rate of return as it does in Lille, either by the consortium as agent for London Transport, or in partnership with London Transport, and hence could be financed from private capital (which has been lined up). Furthermore, they claim, the



Nicholas Ridley, an early task

Matra technology (which would be 80 per cent built in the UK) has, unlike the traditional rail technology, worldwide export potential.

Well, they would say all that, wouldn't they? There is, however, one aspect of their case which Nicholas Ridley might care to have a look at. As I say, London Transport has throughout backed the steel wheel concept. So back in June Lord Plummer wrote to the LDDC to ask whether it was in fact prepared to consider tenders involving a different technology. The LDDC replied that it had agreed with the GLC that "the system performance specification should be drawn up on the basis of the concept of steel wheel on steel rail". Lord Plummer wrote back in August to say why tender conditions should be drafted to exclude alternative technology. He has had no reply. Yet it seems a pertinent question.

Could it be that Aslef and the NUR and their friends on the GLC are afraid that if the Matra computerized technology were once used for dockland someone might think of developing it to meet the needs of commuters more generally? And what would become of the train drivers then?

Lord Bruce-Gardyne was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

Charles McKean

A blueprint for bad design

Yesterday, Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, was presiding over architectural competitions. This old-fashioned device is undergoing a revival at the moment, particularly in London, where it has been chosen as the means of settling how a prime site - such as the National Gallery extension or the "Green Giant" plot south of Vauxhall Bridge - should be developed.

Mr Jenkin does not want to stop there. In line with the government's overall aim to ensure that free competition works efficiently, he is seriously considering extending the notion to architects' fees. At the moment they are fixed by common consent of the architects, who offer their services for the same price, whether big or small, well-known or just beginners. If Mr Jenkin carries out his plan, this cartel will cease and architects will be expected to compete with each other for the cheapest deal.

The Government (being both directly and indirectly one of the largest clients for building work) will then select architects as much on the cost of their services as the quality of their product.

The greatest unpopularity of architects does not help their case. But architects are unpopular for their work as much as their incomes. Indeed, their incomes are not out of line with the job they do. Royal Institute of British Architects figures show a level of remuneration to architects lower than that of most other professions. This view is supported by that stern guardian of public morality, the Monopolies Commission, which found that architects were not "over-remunerated for their labours".

Architects' unpopularity has been earned - whether fairly or unfairly - for the poor quality of the product. Does the Government think that forcing better competition on fees will produce better architecture? Architects have always maintained that the operation of standard fee scales allows the client to choose his architect solely on quality and reputation, in the knowledge that all architects cost the same. That gives small architects offices an equal chance with the large architectural factories.

Riba statistics, however, have shown that architects' offices are like the rest of business: the larger offices have greater operating margins and the smaller ones, which predominate in the profession, have no margins at all. If the Government persists with fee competition, the larger offices may have sufficient fat to cut their feet; the small offices may well close.

What would be the architectural consequence? Independent yardsticks of architectural quality, such as the Civic Trust awards and the Riba awards, show that most awards are won by the small offices, not the architectural factories which often produce mere buildings. Architecture can be dispensed with, yet people who are dissatisfied with modern buildings usually argue that there is too little architecture, not too much. To buy architectural skills according to the lowest tender is like a patron wishing to buy modern art but buying only the cheapest, or a book-lover choosing authors by the cover prices. Mr Jenkin would no doubt say that the Government is not being as extreme as that and that architects' fees are only part of a wider evaluation of architects skills and services. It is government officials, then, and those in official bodies who follow the Government's lead, who must in future make judgements between architectural fees and architectural quality. It implies the introduction of aesthetics into the training of civil servants - a new breed of aesthetic gauleiters.

Perhaps the Government is right. Perhaps we have had too much aesthetics and too much emotion since the war. What we need is good, straight building. It is happening already. Employees of the Housing Corporation are deleting what they call "architect's features" from new plans: no domer windows, no arches, no friills. How can it be that Conservatives, of all people, are so intent on squeezing small businesses and encouraging a grey environment redolent of the soulless postwar developments of Eastern Europe? The author is Architecture Correspondent of The Times.



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SOOTHING BUT NOT SOFT

It is a mark of how far the context of political debate has moved since 1979 that the latest ministerial reshuffle has been discussed first of all in terms of its implications for the Department of Trade and Industry...

progress. It was well judged to allow relations to soften, so far as that could be done without sacrificing essentials and to develop the possibilities implicit in Mr Tebbit's conference claim that "We are a party of trade unionists"...

proposals that the unions put forward for a compromise avoiding legislation must effectively satisfy these conditions, not only in theory, but also on the shopfloor. Mr King must not accept guarantees which fall short of that.

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN; AND ONE WOMAN

President Reagan's increasing pragmatism has dismayed some of his more zealous conservative supporters but reassured some of his Nato allies. This year the trend has been encouraged by the opinion polls which have shown that if Mr Reagan runs for election next year he could be defeated unless he makes more effort to capture the centre.

series, leaving less room for the subtleties of non-alignment. She has had an important influence on the formation of US policies towards Central and Latin America. She is easily the most articulate member of the Administration and one of the few to give it a sense of coherence in foreign affairs.

accumulating in the White House, but not necessarily. The National Security Council always has the advantage of proximity to the President. Although, Mr McFarlane was the preferred candidate of the State Department, he was also Mr Clark's nominee, which suggests that there will be no question of any State Department paramilitary.

CRUSADING AGAINST QUEUES

The progress of medicine owes much to crusading physicians, prepared to buck profession, public or politicians in their commitment to lengthen life and ward off pain and disease. Doubtless, to this tradition belongs Dr Cameron, professor of renal medicine at Guy's Hospital, who is reported as wanting to "get the public angry" over the insufficiency of treatment for kidney patients.

and doctors who used such criteria as a patient's youthfulness and freedom from disease in other parts of the body. Squeamishness at the difficulty of such choices (made day in day out by doctors and administrators in all specialisms) betrays an ignorance of how the health service works.

to treat may, sometimes, be kinder and wiser. But doctors alone cannot apportion life chances between old and young sick and less sick. The NHS needs a better system for targeting between the regions in such areas as dialysis - some of the disparities visible at present are indefensible. Doctors deserve better than the moral panic which recently accompanied discussion of organ transplants.

Parkinson case and The Times

From Mrs E. SOWELS Sir, Was it really necessary for The Times to join the ranks of the muckraking gutter press? You have finally bounded him out. All that remains now is to turn her into a martyred heroine...

From Dr Ian Bradley Sir, Am I alone in finding the role of The Times not the least distressing aspect of this whole sorry affair? Your Political Editor says in his report this morning (October 15) that both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Parkinson misjudged the country's tolerance of private failings in public life...

Father and mother of a church clash

From Professor Roger Sharrock Sir, The objections of some of your correspondents to "the exclusive use of masculine language to address God" (the phrase of Ms Pauline Fielding and Mr Peter West in their letter of October 13), as being detrimental to women, seems both to obscure the central tenet of the Christian religion and to brush aside the Christian honour it pays to the female sex.

Mayland, though perhaps more subtle, seems to agree. I think they are wrong. The Lord does not reproduce himself sexually, and I cannot think of him as either butch or effeminate. He is neither male nor female, neither masculine nor feminine. We use the inclusive personal pronoun because he is not a "thing".

French way with British cheeses

From Lady Henderson Sir, Mr Tatum writes (October 15) about the failings of British cheese in France. A few years ago, when my husband was Ambassador in Paris, we held a promotion of British cheeses in the Embassy. The state dining room, with its gilt centrepiece, was used to show off our various cheeses.

GLC waste disposal

From Mr Simon Turney Sir, The suggestion in David Walker's article (October 10) from Mr Patrick Jenkin that London's rubbish could be burnt in a revamped Battersea power station is but one of the poorly researched ideas that the Government have just put out in their White Paper, Streamlining the Cities.

Law of the Sea Treaty

From Dr A. F. Trotman-Dickenson Sir, Professor Denman's proposal (October 5) that a chair should be established at the London School of Economics for the academic study and teaching of planning and management of the seabed gives the impression that this is a new initiative in a subject of study hitherto neglected.

Rate-fixing

From Mr A. H. C. Shaw Sir, The Government has made it clear that it can find no satisfactory alternative to the existing rates system for financing local government. However it seems to want to impose more and more central controls to prevent a drift of rate-councils from raising higher rates each year, thus removing the "local" content from all these bodies.

S Africa's constitution

From Professor Kenneth Kirkwood Sir, Mr Harry Oppenheimer's reasoned declaration (overseas news, October 12) of his opposition to the South African Government's constitutional proposals, soon to be determined by referendum, is greatly to be welcomed. He, personally, has consistently given enlightened leadership of a kind South Africa sorely needs, not only over large public issues, but also in connection with the rights of individuals.

Nicaraguan censorship

From the Ambassador of Nicaragua Sir, With reference to the article (October 14) "How Managua plans the teeth of a paper tiger" by Christopher Thomas, I should like to shed a little light on the question of La Prensa in Nicaragua.

Greenham Common

From Mrs J. Bazley Sir, Lord Chalfont's cheap jibe (October 10) at the "plussavory occupants" at Greenham Common is unworthy of a man of his distinction. No doubt he finds the politics of these women distasteful, but the physical conditions at the camp are dictated by a series of petty restrictions imposed by the Newbury District Council, and to endure these discomforts requires a degree of moral courage beyond the experience of most of us.

The doves of war

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper Sir, Considerable support for the contentions made in your editorial (October 8) can be found in the use of carrier pigeons as a method of operational and intelligence communications in the last war.

Nicaraguan censorship

Britain practised censorship during the Second World War and I myself was witness to the censorship applied during the Malvinas war. Nicaragua is living in a state of war. The whole world asks how much longer we can put up with American aggression.

Nicaraguan censorship

Chamorro (Jr), Sr Carlos Chamorro, is the editor of the newspaper of the Sandinista National Liberation Front. His sister works in the Government's press offices.

هكذا من الامل

Investment and Finance

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 678.2 up 0.6
FT 100: 81.23 down 0.03
FT All Share: 426.94 up 0.28
0.28
Bergains: 21.704
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 93.23 up 0.14
New York: Dow Jones
Average: 1263.31 down 5.39
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index: 9,349.06 down 71.34
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index: 790.04 up 18.49
Amsterdam: 150.77 up 0.3
Sydney: AO Index: 682.1
down 5.7
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index: 989.70 up 7.90
Brussels: General Index
127.10 down 0.02
Paris: CAC Index: 141.4
down 0.1
Zurich: SICA General Index
291.4 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1,500.5 down 10pts
Index 83.3m down 0.3
DM 3.88 down 0.03
FF 11,855.0 down 0.0875
Yen 348.50 down 1.50
Dollar
Index 125.6 down 0.3
DM 2.5860

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1,502.0
Dollar DM 2,577.5
INTERNATIONAL
ECU20.580322
SDR20.707506

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9
3 month interbank 9½-9¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9¾
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month Fr F14½-14¾
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 104½

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling

Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period September 7, to
October 4, 1983 inclusive:
9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$396.75 pm \$397.25
close \$397 (£264.25)
New York latest: \$398.10
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$408.50-410 (£272-273)
Sovereigns (new):
\$93.25-94.25 (£62-62.75)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims: Bankers' Investment Trust, British Home Stores, City of Oxford Investment Trust, Dupont, John Falke Hefo, Hawker Siddeley, Jessel, Toybe and Gillett, Marshall's Universal, Securities Trust of Scotland, Smith St Aubyn, Sun Life Assurance Society, Telephone Rentals, TR North America Investment Trust, Finales: Eleco Holdings, Grosvenor Group, Kalamazoo, RP Martin, Medminster, Quest Automation, Television South West Holdings.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

F & C Eurotrust 1 Lawrence Pountney Hill, EC4 (2.30).
United Real Property Trust, Europa Hotel, Grosvenor Square, W1 (noon).
Christie-Tyler, Brynmynny, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan (noon).

NOTEBOOK

Brooke Bond, the big groceries, timber and plantation group whose products include PG Tips and Oxo, broke a run of poor profits yesterday by announcing that pretax earnings had risen from £35.3m to £48.2m for the year to the end of June. Page 16

The financial affairs of Sotheby's, the London-based auction house, will soon disappear from public view when the group passes into private ownership. Mr Alfred Taubman, the American property multi-millionaire yesterday declared that he and concert parties either owned or had acceptances to nearly 93 per cent of the group's shares.

London Shop Property Trust is raising £9.35m by an underwritten rights issue of 9 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock.

BICC, the cables group, is to issue up to \$70m (£47m) of commercial paper in the United States to help meet its international working capital requirements.

European bankers given details of request for new loans

Brazil will clear its trade deficit in five years, says bank chief

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Banking Correspondent

In an attempt to win support from European bankers for Brazil's multi-million dollar rescue plan Senhor Alfonso Celso Pastore, central bank president, yesterday predicted that Brazil will have eliminated its current account deficit by 1988.

He also gave assurances that the Brazilian government would do all it could to gain the approval for a tough new wage law which is crucial if the International Monetary Fund is to resume lending to Brazil.

At a meeting in London of about 200 European banks, Senhor Pastore gave details of Brazil's request for \$6.5 billion of new loans, a rescheduling of about \$5 billion of 1984 maturities and the need for trade and interbank facilities of \$10 billion and \$6 billion respectively.

Members of the Brazilian bank advisory committee, Mr Anthony Lechin, director of the Bank of England and Mr William Dale, deputy managing director of the IMF also addressed bankers.



Dale (left) and Pastore in London yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

At a press conference afterwards Mr Dale said that IMF projections supported the feasibility of Brazil's current account forecast. The current account deficit is expected to be \$6.9 billion this year.

Although reports from Brazil have suggested Brazil is seeking to modify the new wage law which restrict pay increases to 80 per cent of the inflation rate, Mr Dale said: "I have not heard of any changes."

Senhor Pastore said no changes were planned to the wage bill but fiscal measures to complement it were under discussion. Senhor Pastore said the reaction of bankers after yesterday's three-hour meeting was positive.

However, one banker said yesterday: "There is a grudging acceptance that this is probably the best solution for the time being. But very few people believe that this is enough money to carry them through to the end of next year."

Banks have been asked to agree to the package by November 10. Senhor Pastore said Brazil wanted up to \$3 billion of the new \$6.5 billion loan to be released before the end of this year.

Four countries have suspended importing from Brazil, as a reprisal against increasing restrictions of their imports, Patrick Knight writes from Sao Paulo. Meanwhile, several Brazilian industries are running out of essential imported parts and raw materials.

Colombia, Ecuador, Senegal and Israel, which have announced a boycott, were last year responsible for exports totalling \$400m (£266m), 2 per cent of the total.

To generate the \$6.5 billion trade surplus demanded by Brazil's creditors and the IMF more goods are having to be exported and less consumed at home.

Congressmen 'set to block IMF bill'

From Bailey Morris, Washington

A group of populist American Congressmen, angered by the role of commercial banks in spawning the present debt crisis, indicated yesterday that as many as 200 House members will vote against a Bill authorizing funds for the International Monetary Fund.

Although the Reagan Administration said last week it has succeeded in lessening opposition to the Bill, the congressional coalition indicated it will try to extract a heavy price for its support of the legislation, scheduled for action in the next few weeks.

Mr Byron Dorgan, a Democrat from North Dakota, said his latest count revealed that more than 200 Congressmen will again vote against the \$8.4 billion (\$5.6 billion) increase for the IMF unless something is done to restrict the international lending activities of banks.

He said: "The majority of us supports the IMF. We understand that more funds will ultimately be necessary to solve the debt crisis. But do we hand over the \$8.4 billion to the IMF now, without addressing the banks' lending policies that got us into this mess?"

Mr Dorgan is one of the leaders of a group of House members representing both the Right and Left factions of their parties who oppose the

IMF legislation on grounds that it imposes a large burden on American taxpayers and is little more than a bail-out for international banks.

Congress which returned yesterday from a week's holiday is expected to take up the deadlocked IMF legislation this week.

Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, predicted last week that the Bill will be pushed through a reluctant Congress by the November 30 deadline set by IMF when it negotiated the increased member nation quotas.

Administration officials, including President Reagan, have been lobbying heavily to break the deadlock on the Bill which is encumbered by a series of politically motivated amendments which have prevented its passage. House and Senate members are expected to meet this week to attempt to resolve their sharp differences.

Ms Thatcher's former economic adviser, Sir Alan Walters, spoke yesterday against an increase in IMF quotas to solve the Third World debt problem.

Some short-term lending to debt crisis countries was justified, he said, but quotas meant a permanent increase in world liquidity and this would be "a grave error".

\$600m plan for sale of Conoco assets

Wilmington, Delaware, (Reuter) - An investment group has agreed tentatively to buy assets of Du Pont's Conoco chemicals arm for about \$600m (£400m), it was said.

The group was organized by E F Hutton Group and Mr Gordon Cain, a former Conoco vice-president. Others taking part include members of Conoco's present management.

A new company, Vista chemical, will be formed from Conoco's commodity chemical business.

It is expected, for financial reporting purposes, that no gain or loss will be recognized on the sale by Du Pont, the company said. The proceeds, it said, will be used for debt reduction among other purposes.

A definitive agreement is expected by the end of this year. Du Pont said that the agreement includes Conoco plants at Lake Charles, Louisiana, which makes ethylene, methyl chloride, synthetic alcohols, alumina, ethoxylates, vinyl chloride monomer and detergent alkylates.

The sale also includes subsidiaries in Argentina, Spain and Japan and three wholly-owned subsidiaries which handle sales and marketing outside the US.

Stockholders hit at recovery claim

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Ministerial belief that Britain's economic recovery has begun is simply "a figment of the government's political eye", according to the leaders of the industry which buys and sells much of the nation's steel.

Mr Michael Kent, president of the National Association of Steel Stockholders, said yesterday: "The Government tends to think that a new supermarket or micro-processor factory is the be-all and end-all."

But, he said, stockholders in the Midlands and the North were not seeing much of a recovery in the industries which used their products. The car industry had had a good summer, but many steel-using industries were not needing it in any greater quantities and many companies were going out of business.

The NASS, whose members account for about 85 per cent of

the steel shifted by the country's stockholders, believes that the British Steel Corporation has become one of the most efficient producers in the world and has vastly improved its delivery and quality, but remains hampered by low economic activity.

Mr Kent, speaking the day after official figures showed that September was a record month for retail spending, called for greater government expenditure on infrastructure projects and less concentration on selling BSC to the private sector.

"There are more things than privatization. Let us get the economy going."

Meanwhile, BSC has won a £6m contract to supply the bulk of the steel plate to be used in the production platform for the Ula oil and gas field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea.

City Editor's Comment

Lunchtime logic for merchant bankers

The City's merchant banks are agitated as never before about how best to exploit the opportunities presented by the changes now under way at the Stock Exchange.

Conventional wisdom has it that the big banks will combine with the big brokers, when the rules are changed to allow such mergers, and the combination of these resources will create a pool of expertise sufficient to rival the New York-based investment banking powers like Salomon Brothers and Goldman Sachs.

But conventional wisdom once again seems to be wrong. More and more the talk at merchant banking lunch tables is turning against buying into a broker, or merging with one, because the banks feel they can develop their own much more cost-efficient solutions.

Those banks which have investment departments where they manage funds either in the form of unit trusts or as private client portfolios are coming rapidly to the conclusion that brokers have little to offer them that they cannot do for themselves.

Rather than take on an entire broking partnership, they feel it would be a lot more cost efficient to buy in one or two senior partners from an existing firm, and give them a small dealing staff and channel the firms' portfolio trading through them.

True, they would cut themselves off from the research provided by the big brokers, but most of these big fund managers carry out their own research anyway, and even if they do not, it would be a simple matter once again for them to hire a few of the best analysts.

The key question for the merchant banks, therefore, is less the debate about minimum commissions, but when the rules of the Stock Exchange are going to be

relaxed sufficiently for them to become members, because obviously until they can clear this hurdle there is no point in their having dealing capacity in house.

There are secondary questions, too, about whether they want to get involved in the stock market at all, as opposed to concentrating on the many other international, more flexible and faster growing areas of financial services.

But the real focus of the debate is beginning to turn on membership and in particular the role of the appeals committee, a new body which will not be controlled by members of the Stock Exchange.

Hard times for USM

The Unlisted Securities Market has come unstuck twice in four days, just when it looked as if it would clear its third birthday with yet another year of growth untroubled by disasters.

Last Friday one of this year's launches, Chemical Methods Associates, plunged so far into losses that the issuing house has decided to give shareholders their money back.

Then on Monday, Thames Investment and Securities, one of the first to join the market back in 1980, reported losses of nearly £5m, and a boardroom shakeup and hive-off which raises almost as many questions as it answers, and brings back to prominence one of those best-known names from the fringe banking crisis, Mr Tom Whyte, formerly of Triumph Investment Trust.

The Stock Exchange and the Bank of England have both seen fit in recent months to issue warnings about the over valuation and risk inherent in many USM issues.

Recent events show how timely those warnings were

Dow Jones down by 5 points

New York (AP - Dow Jones) - Shares extended their opening decline in moderate trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down by nearly 5.5 points, with the transportation index slightly lower and the

WALL STREET

utility average down by 0.5 points. Falling stocks were ahead of rising ones by a 7-to-4 margin.

International Business Machines was 131½, off ¼, General Electric, 53½, down by ¼, American Express, 34½, down 1, Coca Cola, 53½, off ¼, General Motors, 78½, off ¼, Ford, 68½, ¼ lower, Monsanto, 115½, up ¼, and Honeywell, 130½, down by ¼. Dupont was up ¼ to 52½, Gulf Oil ¼ up, at 47½, Mesa Petroleum ¼ up, at 15½, Tandy, up ¼, at 37½, Data General, off ¼, at 74½, Northwest Air, higher by ¼ to 41½, Merrill Lynch down 1½, to 30½, E. F. Hutton, down 1½, to 35½.

World banking growth 'almost at a standstill'

By Our Banking Correspondent

International banking almost ground to a halt in the second quarter of this year, according to new figures from the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

However, a slight pick-up in bank lending to the Third World has led the BIS to be slightly more optimistic about the prospect of developing countries raising finance to cover their balance of payments deficits without being forced into more painful adjustment.

Although well below the \$13 billion recorded in the second quarter of last year, new bank lending to non-OPEC developing countries increased from \$1.6 billion in the first quarter to \$4.2 billion in the second quarter of 1983.

The first-half total of \$5.8 billion compares with an estimated requirement for bank finance of \$20 billion this year to help meet current account deficits of about \$50 billion. Although bank lending will

have to accelerate sharply in the second half of this year to meet the \$20 billion target, the BIS now seems more optimistic that this may be achieved.

It says it may be possible to finance the likely current account deficit if the recovery of spontaneous new lending is maintained and if there is a resumption of involuntary lending to some problem countries.

During the first quarter there was about \$3 billion of involuntary lending associated with International Monetary Fund rescue programmes for Brazil and Mexico.

The continued slow pace of international lending and a sharp slowdown in interbank activity were responsible for the overall lack of growth in the international banking market.

For the first time since 1963, when quarterly figures were first collected, external assets of banks in the BIS reporting area in 15 western countries showed almost no growth.

New crude oil contract to be traded

IPE becomes London's No 1

By Michael Prest

Trading of a new crude oil contract will begin on the International Petroleum Exchange in London on November 21. The new contract, which the IPE hopes will trade 500 lots a day within six months, will make the exchange easily the biggest commodity market in London.

The contract also has far-reaching implications for the structure of oil pricing. It will be in lots of 1,000 barrels (42,000 American gallons), denominated in US dollars. The marker crude is Brent Blend, but within a range of 35 to 45 degrees API gravity and a minimum sulphur content of 0.4 per cent, a wide variety of crudes may be deliverable.

Among those specified are Ninian, Ekofisk Blend from the North Sea; Bonny Light and Brass River from Nigeria; Zarzaitine and Saharan Blend from Algeria; and Zrzaitine from Tunisia. Delivery is

six months ahead, so the first delivery month will be February.

The exchange, which opened in 1981, has been the fastest growing commodity market in London. Its only contract is in gasoil (heating oil), where turnover this year has been running at 7 per cent more than in 1982 and is about 3,000 lots daily. The open position, a good indication of the size of the market, is 6,500 lots.

When the market opened it had been widely assumed, not least by the contract committee, that the next step would be a contract for a light distillate such as petrol. But Mr John Lister, chairman of the contract committee, said that the crude contracts would give producers a better opportunity for hedging across all parts of the barrel.

The IPE will not be drawn on the identity of a third contract, but gasoline must be considered a possibility.

Much will depend, however, on the reaction of the oil majors. The exchange believes that five of the seven majors are active in its gasoil contract and in the rival gasoil and crude contracts offered by the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The new contract was designed in cooperation with the majors, and two aspects may attract them. One is the alternative delivery procedure which allows delivery, admittedly rare on futures markets, to be made to any location in any crude by agreement. Differentials will be set in the month preceding the delivery month by the exchange committee. This is likely to break the notorious "daisy chain" trading in Brent.

A more tantalizing prospect in how the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will react. A big and transparent crude futures market could produce different prices from Opec's more political policy.

Brooke Bond Group

Year to 30th June 1983

Highlights of the Year

* Operating profit	+	12%
* UK operating profit	+	31%
* Profit before tax	+	37%
* Earnings per share	+	49%
* Dividend	+	5%

	1983	1982
	£m	£m
Operating profit	63.6	56.8
Profit before tax	48.2	35.3
Earnings	24.2	16.2

Extract from the Chairman's Statement to be posted to shareholders on 7th November 1983:-

"The major highlight is clearly the improvement in our financial performance. This is not in my opinion an unsustainable improvement and reflects the point that 1983 marked a watershed in the group's fortunes. The process of rationalisation has now nearly been completed. We have identified our core businesses - branded grocery products, timber products and plantations for each of which we have developed a clear strategy and development plan. If interest rates reduce and the UK in particular continues to emerge from the long period of recession I can foresee continued improvement in the group's performance."

The directors recommend a final dividend of 2.85p per share. This, together with the interim dividend of 1.25p per share declared in March will make a total net dividend of 4.1p per share.

This is an increase of 5% on the rate paid in the previous year and is payable on the same share capital.

If you wish to have a copy of the 1983 Annual Report, please complete the coupon and return to:

The Secretary,
Brooke Bond Group plc,
Thames House, Queen Street Place,
London EC4R 1DH.

Name:

Address:

APPOINTMENTS

Financial director for Beechwood

Beechwood Group: Mr Bruce Davies has become group financial controller.

Cope Allan International: Mr Michael Ashcroft, chairman of Hawley Group, has been made a director and non-executive chairman.

Cambridge Electronic Industries: Mr David Pratt has also been appointed managing director of Cambridge Interconnection Technology.

Gresham: Mr T. C. Brooks, general manager (finance) of Gresham Life Assurance Society and Gresham Unit Assurance, has been appointed a director of both companies.

London Merchant Securities: The company has named three senior executives as additional directors. Mr Walter Millson, group property director, Mr Robert Payne, director of consumer services and Mr Robert Spicer, group finance director.

Brown Goldie & Co: Mr Richard Wevill has joined the company as an executive in the corporate finance department.

P. J. Dewey (Agencies) Co: Mr B. P. Marsh has been appointed chairman of the company, which is a Lloyd's members agency. In addition, Mr R. J. Alford, Mr N. H. Carter, Mr D. A. Charlesworth and Mr P. J. Mortlock will be joining the board.

GB Papers: Mr John Dick has become deputy chairman. Mr G. H. Hitchen has resigned.

Chase Manhattan Limited: Mr Ian Vogt will be manager - fixed rate bond trading, from next Monday. The company is the London-based merchant banking subsidiary of the Chase Manhattan Capital Markets Group.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Michael Prest

Brooke Bond heads towards record

Brooke Bond Year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £48.2m (£35.3m) Stated earnings 7.77p (5.22p) Turnover £914m (£854m) Net final dividend 2.65p Share price 71p Yield 3.2%

Brooke Bond may finally be emerging from the rough patch of recent years. The external factors - commodity prices, interest rates and demand - which made the purchase of Mallinson-Denny appear so unfortunate are now running the other way.

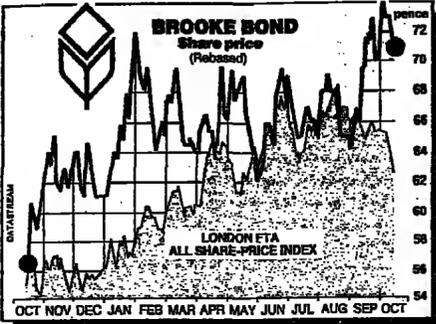
Tea prices, for instance, have risen by more than half at the London auctions over the last 18 months to 1.67p a kilogramme, the interest charge fell 28 per cent to £15.4m, and the economic upturn is now evident in timber demand and prices.

The outcome was that Brooke Bond's final results were just a shade below the record £48.3m of 1977. But the 36 per cent increase in pretax profits was earned on a noticeably lower turnover, an indication of the sharp rationalization which the group has experienced over the past two or three years.

The importance of the smaller interest-rate charge may be judged from the fact that operating profits went up by only 12 per cent to £63.6m.

The core businesses in the newly structured group are groceries (tea, coffee, Oxo and meat), timber, and plantations including ranching. Groceries accounted for 45.9m of turnover. The problem in this sector is that Brooke Bond is closely associated with strong brand names such as Oxo and Fray Bentos.

Expansion must come either from increasing market share - for example by pushing up instant coffee from 5 per cent to 8 or 10 per cent of the £300m British market - or from acquisition. With acquisitions, the group depends chiefly on other companies, such as Imperial Tobacco, deciding to sell businesses.



Timber is much smaller, contributing £255m to turnover. It is a long-term growth business which benefits from economic recovery. The British timber interests are growing rapidly.

On the assumption that commodity prices and interest charges will not once again swing against Brooke Bond, the current yield of 3.2 per cent could look unfairly cautious.

The gearing has been held steady at 45 per cent and Mallinson should cover its purchase cost this year.

There is every indication that in 1983/84 Brooke Bond will comfortably better its previous profit record.

Ibstock Johnsen

Ibstock Johnsen Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £1.6m (loss £1.3m) Stated earnings 3.41p (loss 5.63p) Turnover £33.7m (£28.6m) Net interim dividend 1.75p (1.5p) Share price 154p up 1p Yield 2.8%

It is small wonder that the directors of Ibstock Johnsen, the Leicester brick-maker, turned down an apparently generous £52m offer from London Brick a couple of months ago. Half-year figures released yesterday vindicate the decision and show just what a bargain London Brick would have got had its £27m bid last Christmas been allowed to proceed uninterrupted by a six-month Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation.

Half-year losses of £1.3m in 1982 were turned into pretax profits of £1.6m during the same period this year. Stripped of the loss-making Dutch offshoot, the group expects to do much better during the second half, enabling it to surpass easily its previous record profits of £5.1m.

Perhaps more significantly, further big growth is being predicted for 1984, with the group's US brickmaking interests for the first time earning an adequate return - about 12 per cent on a \$30m (£20m) investment.

Ibstock's highly successful British business continues to go from strength to strength.

There can be few more dramatic turnarounds than that of Ibstock which only last Christmas was in a highly precarious financial condition. If the tiny 2.8 per cent yield on the shares looks a little ambitious by historic standards, it is also an indication of the long-overdue rerating that has been afforded to the whole sector.

Paterson Zochonis

Paterson Zochonis Year to 31.5.83 Pretax profit £28.9m (£28.6m) Stated earnings 29.02p (£30.06p) Turnover £271m (£211m) Net total dividend 4.75p (4.60p) Share price 146p Yield 4.6% Dividend payable 5.12.83

The Nigerian economy had fared better than expected and few of the gloomy predictions for it have materialized, so Paterson Zochonis' full-year figures are better than either the company or the City hoped for six months ago.

This time last year it looked as though oil prices could drop to \$20 a barrel, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreement looked ready to collapse, August's election was still to come and it was almost certain that import would be allowed.

In the event oil prices held steady, the economy has been restored, the elections returned (reasonably democratically) a government with a strong mandate and import restrictions have benefited Paterson's Nigerian manufacturing businesses.

Profits from the two Nigerian soap-making associates increased from £5.1m to £6.3m as local manufacturing geared up to fill the vacuum left when imports almost stopped. So far raw materials have escaped the import restrictions.

More worrying, the amount of cash in Nigerian banks owed to Paterson has leapt from £7.5m to £37.3m.

Average payment now takes six months. This means, with up to three months' credit to customers, it can take between six and nine months from despatching an export order from Britain to receiving payment.

However, a large proportion of the cash is covered by Export Credit Guarantee Department

insurance. Cuts at Cuseons, because of the Nigerian import ban which hit soap exports, cost about £3.5m in total £1m of which was for redundancies.

Results this year rely largely on the Nigerian manufacturing industries.

Harrisons & Crosfield

Harrisons & Crosfield Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £21.2m (£16.2m) Stated earnings 17p (11.7p) Turnover £472m (£437m) Net interim dividend 8p (7.5p) Dividend payable 9.12.83

There were few surprises in the interim results from Harrisons & Crosfield, better known for its plantation interests, although that aspect of its business is now a minority interest in trading profits.

After last year's £146m cash sale of the Malaysian plantations only London Sumatra's figures are now fully incorporated. The third still held in Harrisons's Malaysian estates has yet to show a real trend.

The question mark over the figures is how much of that £146m is still in the company. The last accounts showed £64m cash and £33m on finance leases. Net of borrowings that left about £24m. Most of the British debt was paid off, but the company held the 600,000 debt, while also pumping funds into the other mainstream businesses.

There can be no doubt that this year Harrisons will be working hard to continue bringing down the potential tax charge on that cash injection.

The company is confident that the droughts and poor prices seen this year have turned around enough to provide some confidence.

Overall, the company expects a satisfactory outcome for the full year. So pretax profits between £48 to £50m look likely, compared with last year's £44.4m.

Davies & Newman losses increase

Taking advantage of the demise of Laker Airways last year has hit the interim profitability of Davies & Newman Holding, the owners of Dan-Air.

The company leased two extra Boeing aircraft to service the flights Laker could no longer handle. But having taken the Heathrow-Inverness route from British Midland's Gatwick for British Midland's Gatwick-Eastfast route, the fast expanding independent airline has decided to keep the extra aircraft rather than end the leases for the quiet winter months.

That decision has added an extra £1m to the interim losses which are usually incurred. Aircraft are leased from April just for the summer months.

The extra Laker business provided an unexpected filip to the 1982 profits but Davies & Newman was much more

Davies & Newman Holdings Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax loss £2,760,000 (£1,748,000 loss) Stated loss 23.35p (14.77p) Turnover £78.7m (£78.2m) Net interim dividend 3p (3p) Share price 142p Dividend payable 142p 31.1.84

cautious about forecasting the benefits for this year.

Mr Frederick Newman, chairman, said: "At this stage it is difficult to forecast the group results for this year but the summer season had been active and should help compensate for the quieter winter seasons now being experienced."

The company hopes at least to match 1982's £3.6m pretax profits but much will depend on the four operators maintaining their winter holiday contracts.

Many have clauses to cut bookings.

L and N profits rise

London and Northern, the construction group, increased its pretax profits from £3.5m to £4.1m in the first half of this year.

The results include an eight-day contribution to pretax profits of £232,000 from United

London and Northern Group Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £4.1m (£3.5m) Stated earnings 4.1p (4p) Turnover £80.5m (£107.3m)

Medical Enterprises, which was bought from the Government last summer

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices including columns for company names, prices, and changes. Includes sections for Commodities and Canadian Prices.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Municipal Properties Half-year to 30.6.83 Attributable profit £73,000 (£67,000) Pretax profit £214,000 (£179,000) Net interim dividend none (same)

Castle (GB) Year to 31.7.83 Pretax profit £1.2m (£902,000) Stated earnings 8.25p (5.79p) Turnover £13.5m (£10.2m) Net dividend 0.8p

Brook St Bureau Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax loss £150,000 (£633,000) Loss per share 1.27p (5.13p) Turnover £7m (£7.3m) Net interim dividend None (same)

Hunting Petroleum Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £2.8m (£3.2m) Stated earnings 6.89p (13.34p) Turnover £115.1m (£7.6m) Net interim dividend 2.25p (same)

Rannus Holdings Year to 4.7.83 Pretax profit £821,000 (£325,000) Turnover £19.2m (£13.6m) Net dividend 5p (same)

Whittington International Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £109,000 (£3,000) Stated earnings 0.31p (0.02p) Turnover £254,000 (£215,000)

Edith Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £1.7m (£1.6m) Net interim dividend 0.3p (same)

James Austin Steel Year to 31.3.83 Pretax loss £517,000 (profit £190,000) Loss per share 4.85p (profit 1.67p) Turnover £13.6m (£15.4m) Net dividend 1.8p (same)

More O'Ferrall Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £1m (£1.1m) Stated earnings 2.7p (2.8p) Turnover £8.7m (£7.3m) Net interim dividend 0.5p (0.8p)

Tate and Lyle: The company is bidding for Alcantara Sociedade De Emprendimentos Acicarieiros, which refines sugar in Portugal. The cost to the company of acquiring the 62 per cent of the shares which are held by non-residents of Portugal, will be £1.5m.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES Rubber to 10.10.83 per tonne, mixed, major, in packages per tonne. Gas-oil in US \$ per metric ton.

Table of commodity prices for various items like rubber, gas-oil, sugar, etc.

TIN HIGH-SHADE 5728-5735 5715-5720

Table of tin prices and other commodity prices.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET In \$ per oz.

Table of London Gold Futures Market prices.

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Official copper figures. Prices in dollars per metric ton. Silver in dollars per fine ounce.

Table of London Metal Exchange prices for copper, silver, etc.

WHEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES. Wheat futures prices.

Table of wheat and livestock commodity prices.

Harrisons & Crosfield

INTERIM STATEMENT

(UNAUDITED)

Table showing financial results for 1983 and 1982, including group profit before interest and taxation, earnings per ordinary share, etc.

Results and Prospects

The Plantation Division's profits for the half year are affected by Harrisons Malaysian Plantations Berhad and certain other companies now being dealt with as related companies; against this there is a material benefit to Finance arising from income on the proceeds of the sale in the second half of last year of part of the Group's plantation interests.

economies made in the previous year and also to the general improvement in trading activity. This better trading environment seems likely to be maintained in the second half of the year.

The higher profits achieved by the Chemical and Industrial Division are attributable partly to the operating

Duller conditions prevail in a number of overseas markets, hence the somewhat lower figures of General Trading Division, but for the Group overall, we expect a satisfactory outcome for the year as a whole.

Interim Dividend 8p per Ordinary share

Table showing Principal Activities for 1983 and 1982, including Plantations, Chemicals and Industrial, Timber and Building Supplies, etc.

NOTES

1. Included in the comparative figures for the six months to 30th June 1982 are the results of Harrisons Malaysian Estates PLC. ("HME") and certain other plantation companies as subsidiaries. Under the Scheme of Arrangement referred to in the Directors' Report for 1982 the Group disposed of a 30.3% interest in HME on 30th September 1982 retaining a 30.3% interest in HME's successor company, Harrisons Malaysian Plantations Berhad ("HMPB") and received cash of approximately £146 million. In the six months to 30th June 1983 the Group's share of the results of HMPB is included with related companies.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD PLC, 1-4 GREAT TOWER STREET, LONDON EC3R 5AB.

Base Lending Rates

Table of base lending rates for various banks like ABN Bank, Barclays, etc.

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London and Northern Interim Results Half-year to 30th June 1983

* Pre-tax profits for half year increased to £4.1m (1982 £3.5m) including £232,000 from United Medical Enterprises Limited, which joined the Group on 23rd June 1983 and which earned a further £5.05m prior to acquisition.

* Higher interim dividend of 1.7p per share (1982: 1.5p), on capital increased by recent rights issue. Final (2.5p) to be at least maintained.

Technology Available For Manufacturer/Marketer. Byrne & Davidson Doors (N.S.W.) Pty. Ltd. is the largest garage door maker in Australia. Our major product, B & D Roll-A-Door, is manufactured and marketed successfully in 17 countries including U.S.A., New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Netherlands, Spain, Middle East and South East Asia, etc.

Susan Bevan reports on the oil company's struggle to overcome its debt legacy

Burmah still waiting for its star to rise again

The catastrophe which nearly finished off Burmah Oil at Christmas 1974, seemed to strike like a bolt from the blue. The recovery from it has been long and slow. Even nine years later the chairman, Mr John Maltby, warns the company's critics that they must go on being patient.

There is a period, after you have gone through a recovery programme of this magnitude, of what you might call suspended faith. People want to see change and improvement and they want to see it in short order, but these things take a great deal longer than the management thinks," he says.

In many ways the recovery has been remarkable. Burmah, then one of Britain's biggest companies and one of the oldest oil companies in the world, was brought to its knees by its massive debts and the equally massive problems of its tanker fleet. It only survived at the cost of a fire sale of £865m of its cheapest assets.

Yet the rump of the company has steadily turned round from pretax losses of £13.6m in 1975 to profits of £81m in 1982 on total funds employed, slashed from £870m in the 1974 balance sheet to £632m at the end of last year, after all the inflation in between.

However, net income, after hefty tax charges and exceptional losses which continue to plague the company, has been erratic and last year saw only £8.9m at the attributable level - £5m too little to cover the dividend.

This year could be worse, with trading profits depressed by the recessionary conditions at home and abroad and a big, exceptional debit to come from the cancellation of more of the disastrous tanker charters.

Critics look ahead to the inevitable slow-down in contributions from Burmah's big profit earner - its 8.3 per cent stake in the Thistle oilfield. With other businesses like Castrol, Quinton Hazell and Halfords looking unexciting, they query where the growth is going to come from.

Mr Maltby is resigned. He says of the indignities "I wouldn't use the word harsh. I might suggest an element of misunderstanding - of how long it takes to effect change."

Taking over the chairman's seat last summer, he has a hard act to follow. His predecessor, Sir Alastair Down, justifiably retired to widespread praise for the way he had hauled Burmah out of the wreckage. Mr Maltby's job is to steer a company that still suffers many twinges from its old wounds, into a vigorous future.

One debilitating legacy from the past remains Burmah's fleet of tankers - now down from 42 at the time of the crash to only seven, but still making losses. These amounted to £5m last year and seem likely to stretch well into the future with one broker estimating off balance sheet commitments of some £76m in charter arrangements over the years 1983, and a tanker market that is, as Mr Maltby glumly observes, "always going to improve in two years time."

Fortunately the fleet of eight liquid natural gas carriers on long-term contract between Indonesia and Japan remains profitable and means the shipping division makes reasonable profits.

It was the pell-mell race into shipping which was the immediate cause of Burmah's downfall when the charter market went through the floor in 1974 and Burmah Oil Tankers made a £3m loss.

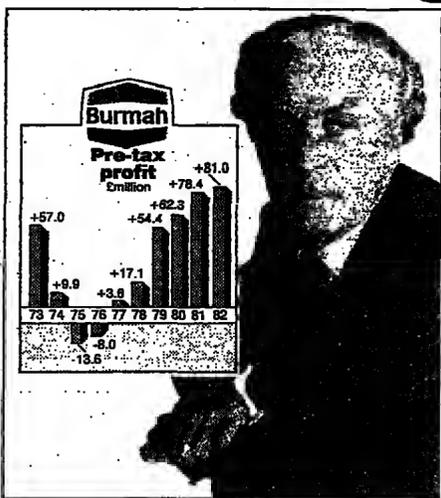
This exacerbated deeper problems. The company was long liked by its shareholders because of its tax status as more of an investment company than an operator. Its 23 per cent stake in BP and 5 per cent of Shell constituted its major assets.

In the early 1960s Burmah's old management started a vigorous programme of acquisitions, gearing up to those apparently rock-solid assets.

The takeover trail which took in Castrol, Halfords and Quinton Hazell culminated in 1974 with the purchase of Signal Oil of the US for \$480m (£320m), necessitating borrowings of £282m in North America and on the Eurocurrency market.

In 1974 the combination of the international oil crisis and the collapse of the London stock market amid the property debauch and rising inflation, sent oil shares into a tail spin. At the start of the year Burmah's BP stake was worth £443m. By the end it had tumbled to £180m thereby threatening the asset related terms of the US loans.

In apparent ignorance of the disasters looming on the profits front as well, the loan terms were renegotiated to relate to profitability. But Burmah was heading for a profits collapse from a pretax figure of £56.9m in 1983 to £9.8m in 1974.



Maltby: Steering a wounded group into a vigorous future

thanks to the tanker problems, and the new conditions could not be met. The fall in asset backing also meant technical default on £54m of unsecured loan stock.

There were other problems too. Other parts of the business were doing particularly well and total borrowings were a mighty £420m.

Ironically, Burmah had at last fulfilled its dream of becoming a big oil operator in its own right with its 30 per cent stake in the new-found North Sea Ninian field and the 19.5 per cent stake in Thistle purchased with Signal. The problem was, how, in its present plight, could it finance the development.

The Bank of England stepped in to guarantee borrowings in return for which Burmah pledged its BP stake, giving the Bank an option to buy which it later took up at bargain basement prices. That provoked bitter but ultimately fruitless litigation in future years. Under Bank orders, the new management had to realize what assets it could get to the debts quickly under control.

In the next 18 months the North American oil and gas interests, mostly purchased with Signal, had to go, along with Great Plains Development of Canada, Edwin Cooper, the US company making chemical additives for lubricating oil, Woodside Burmah and finally, the Government bought the Ninian field stake along with 65 per cent of the holding in Thistle.

Mr Maltby reckons that about £100m of this represents the difference between the amounts received from the sale of the tanker fleet and the debt raised to finance it. "This is a serious impediment to further development," he said.

It has meant that the remaining businesses have had to be reined back from expansion and change. Quinton Hazell for example, "should have been expanded further overseas and developed sooner into the original equipment business which it is only doing now. This has been delayed for several years."

Burmah is trying to sell the car components group because Mr Maltby says, it needs and deserves long-term substantial investment to meet the challenge of the European car and this is a strain on Burmah's resources.

The same problems have affected smaller elements of the business and even Castrol, the jewel in the corporate crown, has not been immune.

Apart from this, he said, Burmah had bought a number of big businesses which were apparently profitable and failed to appreciate they had cash commitments for years into the future. "We failed to appreciate how many more millions had to be pumped in - the difference between cash flow and profits," he said.

"The rate of acquisitions was too high for digestion and consolidation and for good management practices to be introduced."

These fundamental problems, he believes, hung over what was left of Burmah long after the immediate crisis was over and, to some extent, hang over it still.

"An inheritance of the disaster is the structure of the group in its component parts. While there was a very clear rationale for the way the Burmah Group was built up before 1973, after the massive excisions you have to realize that what is left does not have the same cohesion and coherence."

The other major hangover from the crash is Burmah's persisting debt burden, with net debt of £205m in the balance sheet at the end of last year representing 59 per cent of shareholders funds.

Mr Maltby says, he returned to its established policy of building up through smaller acquisitions. There have been seven in the last two years in the chemicals and lubricants divisions.

Mr Maltby believes strongly in proceeding with caution and making sure the management is not overstretched in the time-consuming task of integrating new businesses through a series of relatively small acquisitions.

On the oil exploration and production side, he rejects the view that Burmah will gradually fade out with the Thistle field. There has been "a tremendous build up" in this he says, with the number of professional staff rising from about 15 in 1979 to 85 now.

But he is not promising any great leaps forward. His summing up is one of quiet optimism. "Sadly, in the hush world things take longer than you wish and your critics expect".

"Over the four years 1975-1979 Castrol would have been viewed, and viewed itself, as the classic cash cow. It contributed mightily to the coffers. Come 1979 it had to start to carve itself a new future which meant a huge management and philosophical change. It has succeeded, though. The management is nothing if not adaptable."

"If it hadn't been for the crisis we would still have faced problems, but not of the same order of magnitude. The group would have been dominated by the oil production and temporary lapses by relatively modest parts of the group could have been absorbed."

But Mr Maltby is far from pessimistic about the outlook. Castrol is already the largest independent lubricants marketer in the world and although hit recently by the recession he believes it has great potential, now times are improving.

Money is being pumped in with a drive for expansion in Europe, the USA, and latterly Japan, with a big increase in attention to the industrial market and more technically demanding and profitable areas.

Halford is undergoing big changes in merchandising and marketing with a switch to larger stores, and the speciality chemicals side is being gradually expanded through a series of relatively small acquisitions.

The big disappointment here was the failure of the 1981 bid for Croda International which would, Mr Maltby says, have provided the heart and soul of this division. It was a unique opportunity and one which is unlikely to recur he says.

New Burmah has returned to its established policy of building up through smaller acquisitions. There have been seven in the last two years in the chemicals and lubricants divisions.

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Financial notebook

The professor's way to beat inflation

The latest surge in industry's input costs revealed by official statistics last week is a potent reminder of the vulnerability of Britain's open economy to world inflation and to changes in the exchange rate through which this is transmitted.

The Government has long abandoned dogmatic monetarism - which asserted that a tight rein on domestic money supply was all that was needed to control inflation - in favour of an eclectic approach which takes the value of sterling into account.

But in a world of floating currencies and vast international capital flows there are limits to the Government's ability to influence the exchange rate, and it has no power over world prices.

A scheme which claimed to keep down global inflation and stabilize exchange rates with one simple money growth rule could thus be expected to appeal to ministers eager to hold on to their inflation success despite adverse pressures.

Such a scheme exists. It is the brainchild of the American Professor Ronald McKinnon, of Stanford University, and it has already attracted much influential support, most recently from Mr Johannes Witteveen, former managing director of the International Monetary Fund and now chairman of the Group of 30 top international bankers and economists.

Professor McKinnon's basic hypothesis is that inflation in individual countries is determined more by world money supply growth and exchange rate changes than by domestic monetary expansion. This is as true for the United States - where imports account for only 12 per cent of expenditure - as it is for Britain, where they account for 30 per cent.

The professor argues that the pursuit of national monetary targets has led to intensification of the world boom-and-bust cycle and to destabilizing swings in exchange rates.

To see why, consider what happens if the dollar is expected to weaken. American shift cash out of dollars into other currencies such as the yen and the Deutsche mark. This reduces the American money supply and pushes up the value of the other currencies against the dollar.

But Germany and Japan try to resist the appreciation of their currencies to protect their economies from worsening competitiveness. They buy dollars in exchange for yen and Deutsche marks which boosts their own domestic money supply.

But the US Federal Reserve Board, finding monetary growth below target at home, also expands the supply. The result is faster world money growth, faster world inflation and exaggeration of the original exchange rate movements.

The US ends up with the lion's share of the extra inflation imported via a falling dollar. Professor McKinnon's solution is to set a target for world money supply consistent with low global inflation - allocated between the three biggest economies, the United States, Germany and Japan. If the dollar then falls, say, the Fed would reduce monetary growth to offset a higher price of expansion in the two other countries.

This would both keep the lid on inflation and help bring currencies back into line. Would it work? According to an analysis by Simon & Coates, the stockbroker, there is considerable evidence to back Professor McKinnon's claim that world money growth is the key to domestic inflation. But the principal and polished obstacles to his solution are daunting.

As Mr Witteveen put it in his Per Jacobsson lecture in Washington, "the willingness or ability of governments to cooperate in an international scheme is minimal except in an immediate crisis".

It is hard to see even Mr Paul Volcker, the respected Fed chairman, telling an increasingly isolationist and xenophobic Congress that American interest rates must rise to make the dollar less competitive with the German and Japanese currencies.

As for Britain, Professor McKinnon told the Treasury Select Committee of MPs last year that the Government should concentrate on the exchange rate as the cornerstone of monetary strategy. But there are no signs yet that ministers are prepared to go that far in overturning the old monetarist orthodoxy.

Frances Williams

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	High	Low	Mid
101-102 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	101.0	102.0	101.5
103-104 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	103.0	104.0	103.5
105-106 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	105.0	106.0	105.5
107-108 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	107.0	108.0	107.5
109-110 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	109.0	110.0	109.5
111-112 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	111.0	112.0	111.5
113-114 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	113.0	114.0	113.5
115-116 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	115.0	116.0	115.5
117-118 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	117.0	118.0	117.5
119-120 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	119.0	120.0	119.5
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195-196 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	195.0	196.0	195.5
197-198 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	197.0	198.0	197.5
199-200 Anglo-Scottish Assurance Co. Ltd.	199.0	200.0	199.5

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

The Eagle takes off

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Oct 17; Dealings end, Oct 21; Corridor Day, Oct 31; Settlement Day, Nov 7.

Shares of Eagle Star Holdings again leapt to prominence yesterday sporting 20p to 470p as word went round the market that the German group, Allianz Holdings, had sold its entire 28 per cent stake.

But both sides were keeping silent last night. Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle, said: "We never comment on market rumours". But he did admit that he had been swamped with telephone calls from brokers asking him to confirm the story.

Allianz's man in London, Mr Ulrich Rader, also refused to comment. "There have been so many rumours over the past three years", he said.

One thing is certain, if Allianz has sold its stake it will be walking away with a fat profit. Allianz bought its stake in two stages back in 1981. The first 17.8 million shares were bought by way of a dawn raid and the remaining 17 million by an offer by tender at 290p a share. The total bill for the deal was £111m. Since then bid reports have seen shares of Eagle almost double and last night's closing price of 470p valued Allianz's stake at £180m.

— a paper profit of almost £70m. Close observers in the market reckon the sale of Allianz's stake could signal a full bid for Eagle, worth £647m, from South Africa.

Britannia Arrow's proposed £22m rights issue is running into trouble. Yesterday the shares slipped 1p to 75p matching the rights price. The shares have been as high as 95p this year on hopes of a bid, but the speculators now appear to have been flushed out. If the share price continues to fall the ECM called for November 3, might be forced to reject the proposal.

The rest of the equity market presented a steadier appearance after the weakness of the past few days, but investors still refused to be tempted from the sidelines. As a result turnover remained low as reflected in the

FT index which closed 0.6 up at 678.2.

Gilt recovered from a nervous start helped by the latest public sector borrowing requirement which was much in line with expectations. Falls of up to 50p were halved by the close in quiet trade. On the foreign exchange the pound closed unchanged against the dollar at \$1.5055.

A few cheap buyers helped the big four clearing banks make a long awaited rally. Barclays rose 10p to 434p, Lloyds 8p to 447p, Midland 7p to 384p and National Westminster 10p to 567p.

The retail sector made a confident start awaiting details of Springour, Kemp's seminar in the City. Best shares sailed to hold on to their gains of the day as interest dried up. MFI closed 2p lower at 130p, Harris Queensway 4p higher at 264p, Debenhams

closed 2p to 126p. One bright spot was House of Fraser 6p up at 216p.

Electronic components group BSE rose 7p to 145p as it started its whirlwind visit to various brokers to give a progress report and soothe fears

Most Scotch whisky shares are bumping around their year low points but Macallan-Glenlivet is riding at a 630p peak inspired by the success of its Macallan single malt (now at least the fourth best seller in Britain) and the share buying interest of bigger rivals Highland Distillers which has a 6 per cent interest.

Over the group's involvement in Hongkong.

But Mr Peter McMaster, chairman of Fumbe Electronics, has forecast a major turnaround in the group's affairs

this year. Last year the group made a trading loss of £156,000 against a profit the previous year of £236,000.

What is behind the recent surge of interest in shares of Peak Holdings, the animal foods and grain storage group, where the shares continue to hover around the year's high? It is obviously a question that has been bothering the Peak board too. Yesterday it issued a statement saying it was aware of market reports affecting the share price and stating it knew of no reason for recent activity in the shares.

"No takeover approach has been received", it added. The statement succeeded in taking some of the steam out of the price which closed 2p lower at 38p.

Castle (GB), the kitchen and bathroom equipment supplier, has exceeded the profits forecast of £1.1m it made when it joined the Unlisted Securities Market in May. Yesterday it reported pretax profits up from £902,000 to £1.9m and is paying a forecast gross dividend of 0.86p.

Castle Kitchens made a profit of £1.3m, while the hardware side recorded a loss of £133,000.

THE TIMES 1000 1982/83 The World's Top Companies. The top 1000 UK companies with all statistical details. The 500 leading European companies and American, Japanese, Irish, Canadian, Hong Kong companies, etc. £5.00. Available from bookshops or direct at £9.25 including postage. TIMES BOOKS LTD, 35 Golden Square, London, W1.

Table with columns: BRITISH FUNDS, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various funds like Eagle Star, Britannia Arrow, etc.

Table with columns: MEDICALS, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists medical companies like Amgen, Becton Dickinson, etc.

Table with columns: COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists international companies like Anglo American, Anglo Irish, etc.

Table with columns: LOCAL AUTHORITIES, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists local authority shares like LCC, RCL, etc.

Table with columns: DOLLAR STOCKS, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists dollar-denominated stocks like Amgen, Becton Dickinson, etc.

Table with columns: BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists bank and discount shares like Allied Irish, Anglo Irish, etc.

Table with columns: BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists brewery and distillery shares like Allied-Lyons, Bass, etc.

Table with columns: COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists commercial and industrial shares like A-B, AAR, etc.

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TAYLOR WOODROW TEAMWORK IN ENGINEERING WORLDWIDE. Logo with three stylized figures.

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various companies like Anglo American, Anglo Irish, etc.

BOYCOTT No... the... WOODCOCK... Mrs Lloyd Reserving

BOYCOTT AFFAIR: THE BATSMAN IS GONE BUT THE ACRIMONY LINGERS ON

No compromise from the committee men

By Keith Macklin

Geoffrey Boycott has almost certainly played his last game for Yorkshire and with his departure, the County Cricket Club will seek to repair team harmony and morale...

Still a field of conflict

So far there has been little interest shown by the other counties in signing Boycott...

Decision certain to cause a storm

By Peter Ball

Whatever the future holds for Geoffrey Boycott, the immediate decision by Yorkshire County Cricket Club is stormy...

The Yorkshire committee have an astonishing record of indecision, or if not of being indecisive, of getting things wrong...

English contingent are fortified by their dossiers

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

England's six foreign ambassadors, preparing for their European meetings today have gathered between them an armful of files about their respective opponents...

which have earned him the sobriquet of 'the butefer of Bilbao'. With one wild blow recently, he put Maradona out of the game for four months...



Sonness: faces a late fitness test

Tottenham expect a crowd of 40,000 who will be entertained by skydivers among other attractions before a main event that should be even more spectacular with talents such as Hoddle and Cruyff on display...



No black caps, but no reprieve for Boycott: Messrs Burnet, Crawford and Lister

Boycott wanted to play beyond 1984

Mr Michael Crawford, Yorkshire's chairman, read the statement. The text was: 'The chairman of the Yorkshire County Cricket Club, Mr Michael Crawford, following on the meeting of approximately 400 members of the club at Ouse on October 16th...

An optimist among foreboders

By Hugh Taylor

For once it is Jim McLean, of Dundee United, a manager of melancholy mien, seldom accused of spreading sunshine over his Scottish football scene...

Swansea to safeguard their cash

Swansea City have appointed a chartered accountant, Glyn Hammond, as financial advisor after reporting debts of £1.5m. They are preparing a survival plan to put before their bankers within the next few days...

TENNIS

Mrs Lloyd's standing is deserving of curtsies

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent
There has been so much fuss about such Frenchmen as Noah Lecot, Tulane, Forget, and Courteau, that the fast-flowing nouvelle vague of French women's tennis could easily be forgotten...

CYCLING

So much at stake for the Briton with lap to spare

From John Wilcockson, West Berlin
Tony Doyle, from Ashford, Middlesex, last night faced the most demanding two hours of his professional cycling career...

Temporary transfer for Nicholas

Peter Nicholas yesterday completed his move back to Crystal Palace from Arsenal. The 23-year-old midfielder left Selhurst Park for the south London club for £400,000...

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NATIONAL LEAGUE: Green Bay Packers 48, Washington Redskins 47. TENNIS: Wimbledon: Men's singles, first round...

IN BRIEF

Prost may be leaving Renault team
Paris (AP) - Alain Prost may not continue with the Renault grand prix minor racing team next season...

SNOOKER

Black day for Reardon beaten again by Thorne

Ray Reardon, the defending champion, lost to Willie Thorne in the opening round of the 1983 Professional Players' snooker tournament in Bristol...

BOXING

Headguards for professionals in California

Los Angeles (Reuters) - The California state athletic commission has ordered an inquiry into whether professional boxers should wear protective headgear in the ring...

MOTOR RACING STATISTICS OF PIQUET'S FORMULA ONE SUCCESS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

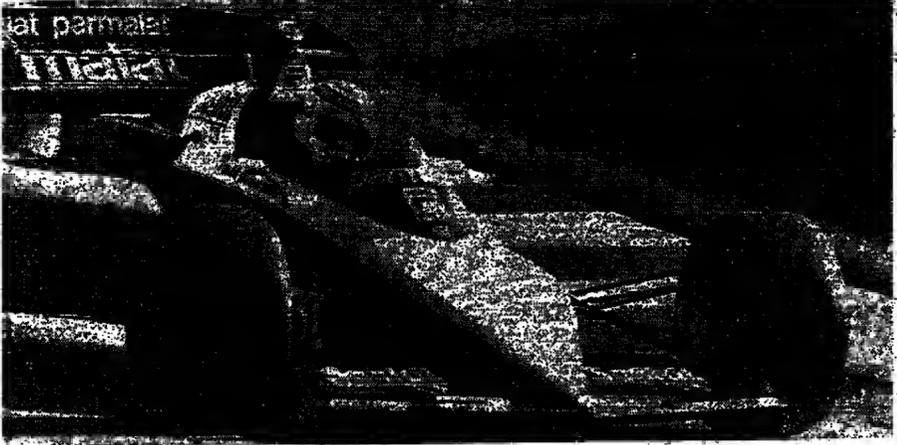
Brazilian at the top of the world thanks to Britain

Nelson Piquet, the 31-year-old Brazilian driver, who won the season's first Grand Prix in his country of birth and who could so easily have won the last, title-deciding round in South Africa had he not handed this consolation prize to his Brabham team partner Riccardo Patrese, is a worthy world champion from the second time at the end of the season.

His end-of-season score is three first places, three second, and two thirds and two fourths. His five retirements, in order, were caused by a sticking throttle, an engine failure, a broken throttle cable, a fire at the back of his car and an accident caused by another driver (Prest) who inadvertently punted Piquet's Brabham-BMW in the side with his Renault.

1983 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP-FINAL POSITIONS table with columns for Driver, Points, and various race results.

It had been clear from the start that 1983 was to be the year of the turbo and so there would have been a certain justice if motor racing's top prize had gone to the Renault team, who had pioneered this form of formula one engine power more than six arduous and immensely costly seasons ago.



Cockpit of power: Piquet, now a formidable adversary. (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

But 1983 was to bring more than a change in propulsion for the most successful teams. Significantly changed technical regulations with the banning of body work side skirts posed fundamental new questions for car designers and engineers only weeks before the start of the new season.

Tyres were also to play a prominent role. All seasons long it was a case of compounds for courses, but in the main Michelin had the edge in race rubber, whereas Goodyear often had a better qualifying tyre.

Ferrari, having pinned a 'reserved' notice on Alboreto in mid-year in anticipation of sending Arnoux on his way at the end of it, saw fit to give Tambyra his marching orders instead after Arnoux had collected sufficient late-season points to make him a championship contender.

Perhaps the best news of 1983 was that a full season of Grand Prix racing punctuated by mid-race refuelling stops could be completed without so much as a single major conflagration. It is to be hoped that this will be put down to extreme good fortune as much as to skill and that rumoured moves to continue the practice next year will be snuffed out with the speed and precision demanded of a fire-fighter.

RACKETS Challenge to Prens put back

John Prens, the world rackets champion, has been forced to postpone the challenge from William Broom, his main rival, scheduled for January 7 and 14 next year, because of an injury to his lower back.

Prens noticed the twinge in his back last season, and when he began his training in July on the stone floor of a rackets court, going for short balls with English croquet, twisting and turning, he suffered a sharp pain and realized the seriousness of the injury, which is to the right sacrospinous joint.

* Rosberg's 9 points in Brazil disallowed because of push-start in pit lane. Points scoring: 1st=9pts; 2nd=6pts; 3rd=4pts; 4th=3pts; 5th=2pts; 6th=1pt.

World constructors' championships: 1, Ferrari 80pts; 2, Renault 78; 3, Brabham-BMW 72; 4, Williams-Ford/Honda 38; 5, McLaren-Ford 34; 6, Alfa Romeo 18; 7, Tyrrell-Ford and Lotus-Ford/Renault 12; 8, Toleman-Hart 10; 9, Arrow-Ford 4; 11, Theodore-Ford 1.

SQUASH Kenyon and Briars fight back

Ankland, (Reuters) - Ahmed Safwat, of Egypt, scored one of the best wins of his career when he beat England's world number three, Hidayat Jahan in the world team squash championships here yesterday.

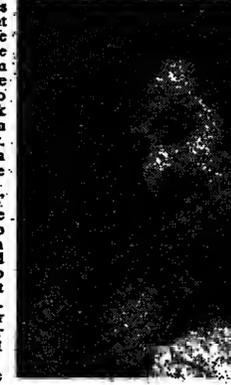
Group A winners and top seeds, Pakistan, in the semi-finals tonight, while England face the third seeds, Australia.

Group B winners and top seeds, Pakistan, in the semi-finals tonight, while England face the third seeds, Australia.

Hidayat Jahan dons new livery

A Pathan warrior chieftain takes the king's shilling

One of the best known stories in squash recalls how Hidayat Jahan almost lost his life travelling to a trial for the Pakistan team. He hung like an ambushing Apache from the slow train from Quetta to Karachi when at three o'clock in the morning it made an unexpectedly quick restart.



Jahan's unusual career may continue in controversial circumstances. He is the chairman of the International Squash Players Association till a year ago, yet in March at Chichester the first professional in the history of the game to be disqualified from a tournament.

But these quarrels largely derive from another, earlier, far more significant one. In 1974 Jahan decided to play in the lucrative South African open, even though he had refused previous invitations.

Jahan won tournaments all round the world and reached the final of both the Pakistan and British opens. Last season he rose to number two in the world. His increasingly subtle, contrasting facility for subtle, gentle deception helped make him one of the great players of his time and one of the great entertainers. Even all this was not enough for him to play for his country.

Explaining his exclusion by the cascade of talent that overflowed from Pakistan during the same time - as well as Zaman there was Gogi Alauddin, Mohibullah Khan, Maqsood Ahmed and later Jahanir Khan - would be inadequate. It is only a partial and subsidiary explanation to point to the quarrels between the then boisterously emotional and independent-minded Jahan, and an authoritarian officialdom.

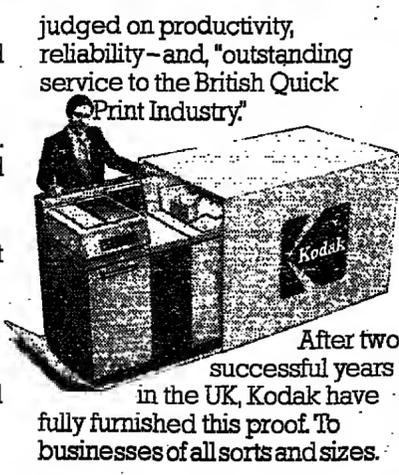
True, in 1981 when once again he was not selected, Jahan walked demonstratively out of the Hashim Khan Trophy event saying he would neither play in the Pakistan Masters nor in Pakistan ever again. But he did, returning from Quetta a few days later to beat Mohibullah, then the Pakistan number two.

Malcolm Wilkström, the talented coach who experienced enough ups and downs in bringing along Briars, now finds his 19-year-old son Chrisy squeezed into the position of England's official reserve, something he has described as ludicrous. "I cannot believe Jahan's selection - and I am sure it was hard to resist for all sorts of reasons - meets with approval in the English squash scene or among the English sporting public at large," he says.

Quetta, a place with dramatic mountain scenery, is populated by people who roamed the heights for a long time before they settled. The embattled Jahan too has had a long and difficult journey from the moment a late-afternoon signal struck him to the ground.

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Richard Eaton

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RACING: FOURTH CHALLENGE MATCH BETWEEN US AND BRITISH JOCKEYS AT SANDOWN

Hawley can hold whip hand for Americans

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent
The line-up for today's Sandown Salver, the annual three-race match between a team of jockeys from the United States and a team representing Great Britain, features some new faces from both home and abroad.

Tap on Wood goes top of tree

By Michael Phillips
The Tap on Wood success story continued at Sandown Park yesterday when Forest of Dean won the first division of the Dorking Stakes. By doing so this grey colt out of that good mare, Betsy Ross, took Tap on Wood to the top of the first season's list.



Richard Quinn and Folly Hill hold Ven Matrero (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Ashgar rated classic colt

Ashgar, who floored the odds laid on Ven Dyke Brown in the Wreath Stakes at Leicester yesterday, could develop into another classic colt for the Aga Khan, who won the 1981 Epsom and Irish Derby with the Bold Scepter.

RUGBY UNION

Newbridge bring a smile to Japanese faces

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent
Newbridge's stubborn refusal to make use of the hard work of Ransom, Griffiths and Davies. The touring side led 9-3 at half time, a modest enough return in view of the chances they set up.

Turn again, Colclough

Maurice Colclough, the lock forward overlooked by England for the match against Canada last Saturday, has been appointed captain of the New Zealand's Twickenham on November 5.



Colclough leads London

Hawley is the most successful ockey Canada has ever produced. His association with such high class horses as Youth and Nobiliary, both of whom had outstanding careers in Europe before they campaigned in America, has been just one of many highlights of a career which has already reaped 4,600 winners.

Debut, my selection for the Santa Anita Handicap has won over today's course and distance already this season. And what is more he revels in soft ground. He also has the beating of Amoroso and Ferryman on recent form.

Soba retires

Soba, the best northern-trained sprinter for many years, has run her last race. She now goes to either Mill Reef or one of Robert Sangster's top stallions, her trainer, David Chapman, announced at Hamilton Park yesterday.

Wolverhampton

2.15 LATECOMERS STAKES (Div 1: 2-y-o maidens: 2690: 1m 10 (10) runners)
BALANCE (Mansel) (L) in Present 9-0 C Nutter 2
2.45 AUTUMN COLLECTION HANDICAP (Selling: 2617: 1m 30 (8) runners)
KINGSTON (Mansel) (L) in Present 9-0 C Nutter 2

Sandown Park

Draw advantage: Low numbers best
Odds Double: 2.10, 3.45. Total Treble: 2.10, 3.10, 4.20
Television: (TV) 2.10, 2.40 and 3.10 races
4.0 OXSHOTT HANDICAP (Apprentices: 2-y-o: 22,197: 5f) (12 runners)
101 668111 MURRAY (Mansel) (L) in Present 9-0 C Nutter 2

Sandown Park selections

1.40 Hilton Brown, 2.10 Karabake, 2.40 Debat, 3.10 Red Minstrel, 3.45 Newbridge
By Michael Phillips
1.40 Hilton Brown, 2.10 Karabake, 2.40 Debat, 3.10 Red Minstrel, 3.45 Newbridge

Wolverhampton selections

2.15 Scholar, 2.45 Higgins, 3.15 Noble Blood, 3.45 Fen Tiger, 4.15 Gentle Gypsy, 4.45 Sassafras.
By Michael Phillips
2.15 Scholar, 2.45 Higgins, 3.15 Noble Blood, 3.45 Fen Tiger, 4.15 Gentle Gypsy, 4.45 Sassafras.

IN BRIEF

Port Elizabeth, South Africa (AP)
A white South African woman athlete who runs with a prosthetic leg, has come within 2.39 seconds of the women's world record for the 5,000 metres.

Sandown results

Going round course good to soft. Straight course good
2.0 HEATHER STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 2120: 5f)
KAZANOV ch o by Blue Castles - 1

Hamilton Park

2.15 BURNING STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 2520: 5f)
KAZANOV ch o by Blue Castles - 1

Leicester

2.15 BURNING STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 2520: 5f)
KAZANOV ch o by Blue Castles - 1

TODAY'S FIXTURES

(Good-to-go unless stated)
European Cup (second round, first leg)
Liverpool v Aston Villa (E)
Manchester United v Tottenham (E)

Michael Stoute: three winners yesterday

Newmarket, 1.51, 9.1. Sassafras (25-1) 4th, 10 run, 2.3.4. Mr. Sassafras.
Daily Double: 2.10, 3.45 (paid on first leg only). TREBLE: 2.10, 3.10, 4.20 (paid on first leg only). PLACE: 2.10, 3.10, 4.20 (paid on first leg only).

Hamilton Park

2.15 BURNING STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 2520: 5f)
KAZANOV ch o by Blue Castles - 1

Leicester

2.15 BURNING STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 2520: 5f)
KAZANOV ch o by Blue Castles - 1

RUGBY LEAGUE

Southern Combination Cup: First round:
London Vale v Canterbury Town (at Kingston)
FA Youth Cup: Second qualifying round:
Widnes v Leicester United; Huddersfield v Bradford City; Bradford City v Bradford City; Bradford City v Bradford City.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Los Angeles can play two tunes on the old squeeze box

Los Angeles (Renter) - The Los Angeles Olympic chief, Peter Ueberroth, watching next summer's Games being used as a pawn in world politics, says bluntly: "There will be more incidents, more problems, more international difficulties."



Ueberroth: philosophical

From his command post in an old helicopter factory close to the MGM film studios, Ueberroth follows world events closely, trying to anticipate his next headache. Following the international fire caused by the Soviet shooting down of a Korean airliner, Olympic officials are keeping a close watch on the Soviet Union, still smarting under the United States-led boycott of the 1980 Moscow games by 56 countries.

Asked if he would continue to organize the Games as though the Soviet Union was coming, he said: "Of course, we will go ahead and assume everybody is coming." He said he was also making preparations on what he called the "accordion principle" - ready for any contingency. "We would pull the accordion out completely to welcome all the countries. If fewer came, we would have to be ready to push the pleats of the accordion closer together."

Revenues would be reduced if the Soviet Union did not send their athletes, Ueberroth said that the ABC television network would have to pay the extra \$2.5m dollars fee to televise the Games if there was no United States-Soviet competition. Some officials say that future problems could come from countries such as Libya and others like Iran, Turkey and some East European countries whose policies are frequently the target of dissident groups in the United States.

Ueberroth, a 46-year-old businessman who appears to take crises in his stride, said security was the biggest item on the Olympic budget. "I can tell you the preparations for security will be very, very extensive," he said, without giving details of how the \$400m Olympic budget is being allocated. "I feel we will secure the Games very well without overshadowing the fact this is a celebration of sport," he said. Police officials estimate they will have a security network of 18,000 personnel.

Television monitoring systems, special fencing and electronic detection devices will also help keep out intruders. Ueberroth, supported by the Los Angeles Mayor, Tom Bradley, keeps the door open to all 152 countries expected to attend. "We have the Olympic charter," he said, "all teams with a recognized national Olympic committee will be welcome. It is not an option for this country, its people or its government to determine who can and who cannot attend. Ueberroth had criticized the Moscow boycott.

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JUDO

Japanese still ready for Olympic titles

Moscow (Reuters) - Japan will look back with regret on the 1983 world judo championships, for although they won four gold medals the total could easily have been six. Nobuyuki Sato, the team coach and himself a former world champion, had predicted a haul of at least four golds in Moscow, and the heavyweight Yasuhiko Yamashita and Hitoashi Saito, in the open category, only silver. The other golds he anticipated from the bantamweight Kenichi Haraguchi and featherweight Yoshiyuki Matsuo failed to materialize, however, because both men lost by going down on their backs at crucial moments. But two divisions, lightweight and light-middleweight, yielded gold where only silver had been expected.

The lightweight Hideohshi Nalishi was the outstanding competitor at the weight but Nobutoshi Hikage was somewhat fortunate to take the decision against the dazzling light-middleweight champion, Neil Adams, of Britain. It was evident from the start of the championships that Japan had a particularly strong team, and there is no reason why their dominance should not continue in the 1984 Olympic Games.

Of the six 1980 Olympic champions who returned to Moscow, only Nikolai Solodoukhin, of the Soviet Union, completed the prized double. The rest - Robert Van Der Walle (Belgium), Ezio Gamba (Italy), Angelo Parisi (France), Tibery Rey (France) and Shota Khabaridze (USSR) - had to settle for lesser medals.

Only Van Der Walle truly distinguished himself with an epic battle against Hitoashi Saito on the last day. The Japanese coach had anticipated that Saito had shown himself to be a much improved judoka, and that there was now little to choose between him and the legendary Yamashita, three years his senior. If anything, Saito showed more flair than Yamashita, throwing everybody, and only failing to score Jippo against an immensely determined Van Der Walle, who came out of retirement earlier this year.

Their contest will be remembered for many years, and was probably the deciding factor in the four-day championships. "I had to work very hard," admitted Saito, who weighs 130kg against the 95kg of Van Der Walle. The argument over whether Adams was robbed of his second world title against Hikage will long be discussed.

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ARCHERY

World title certain to be lost

Long Beach, California (AP) - A field of 190 competitors from 49 nations open competition today in the 32nd archery world championships with the defending women's champion absent because the Soviet Union will not compete. Natalya Butuzova, the silver medal winner at the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, won the women's title a year ago. The Soviet Union have refused to send teams, and a fellow American, Rick McKinney, was a point behind. The Finnish team also has the 1980 Olympic gold medal winner, Tuuli Pokkila.

MOD PENTATHLON

Hungarians lead in California

Irvine, California (AP) - Hungary, Sweden and Italy continued to lead after three events of the modern pentathlon junior world championships here. Robert Bardi, of Hungary, who was 21st in the swimming, was first in the individual event with 3,372 points. Second is Henrik Lundblad, of Sweden, at 3,308 and Cesar Torraldo, of Italy, moved into third place with 3,296 points. Then comes Hungary's Laszlo Fabian, and early favourite to win with 3,244 points. Mark Pohl is the highest-ranked American with 3,152 points. Athletes from 18 nations are competing.

Inside story

West Germany, the holders, make their first appearance against Scotland, the hosts, in the three-day European indoor championship, sponsored by Glendiddich, starting at Meadowbank on the same day (Sydney Friskin writes). February 10 (Sydney Friskin writes). February 10 (Sydney Friskin writes).

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE TIMES
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

- 6.00 Breakfast. 6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.58, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit between 6.45 and 7.00; tonight's television previewed between 7.15 and 7.30; Mike Smith's pop news between 7.30 and 8.00; a review of the morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32; The 4.30 and 8.00 and again between 8.30 and 8.00; and horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45. 9.00 The New Adventures of Flash Gordon. 9.20 Mastermind. Magnus Magnusson with a repeat of an earlier series. 9.55 Day Out. Gavin Richards samples the delights of Dudley and the Black Country. 10.25 Interval. 10.30 Play School. A magazine programme for Asian women. This week the discussion deals with the difficulties faced by Asian women when talking to their doctor. 11.20 Close-down. 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Judy Lines. The weather report at 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Peter and the Searchers. Peter Seabrook is at the International Garden Festival in Liverpool; Lisa Kinsman begins a Chinese cookery course and there is a song from Brenda Lee. 1.45 Hockey Colkey. 2.00 Film: The Pleasure of My Company (1981) starring Debbie Reynolds, Fred Astaire and Lili Palmer. Light comedy about a divorced father who turns up unexpectedly at his daughter's wedding. Directed by George Seaton. 3.53 Regional news (not London). 3.55 Play School presented by Chris Tranchesi. 4.20 Cartoon: Mighty Mouse. 4.25 Johnny. Martin Jarvis reads part three of the Oterbury incident. 4.35 Screen Test presented by Brian Trueman. 5.00 John Peel's Newswatch. 5.15 Seaview. Part three of the comedy series about a seaside boarding house. 5.40 News with Moira Stuart. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 Ask the Family. The fourth match is between the Stockons of Doncaster and the Marks family from London. Robert Robinson is the questionmaster. 6.50 Harty. Diana Dora gives her first interview since her operation and David Essex talks about his new musical, Bounty. 7.25 Bare Essence. Glossy two-part report from the United States about a young girl finding her feet in the up-market perfume business. Starring Linda Evans, Genie Francis and Bruce Boxleitner. 9.00 News with John Humphrys. 9.25 Rough Justice - Report. An up-date of what has happened since the cases investigated in the last series. 18 months ago. Three more cases of possible wrongful imprisonment are investigated in a new series beginning next week (see Choice). 9.55 Spotlight presented by Harry Carpenter. Highlights from one of tonight's European football competition matches involving a British club. 10.45 Motorfair. Chris Serle and Su Ingle report from Earls Court. 11.33 News headlines. 11.35 Late Night Concert. The Steve Miller Band in Fina Knob, Michigan. 12.05 Weather.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. A review of the morning papers at 6.25; news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45 and 7.15; John Stapleton with a guest in the Spotlight at 7.05; Popeye cartoon at 7.20; guests, The Nolans, from 7.30; Fenton Bressler's casebook at 7.50; Britain pop video at 7.55; David Jacobs' Magic Moments at 8.05; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.35; Wincoy and friends from 9.02.

TV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: Two Urban legends. 9.47 Bigory and prejudice. 10.04 Magic and mystery. 10.21 Television in Holland. 10.48 Sand movement and the 1930s. 11.30 The training of a policeman. 11.22 Mirrors. 11.39 How we used to live. 12.00 Burton Moore. Adventure of the puppet family, the Spoons. 12.10 Region (1). 12.30 Play It Again. Tony Bibow talks to Barry Green who selects clips from his favourite films. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 A Place. Following-up last Wednesday's programme about the American organization, Tough Love. Gill Nevill chairs a discussion between parents and problem-child experts about young delinquents. 2.00 The Sandown Salver. A three-act contest between the top jockeys of the United States and Great Britain. 3.30 Close-downs. 4.00 The Sandown Salver. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 Dangerous. Jackie's the next of his Four Tasks. 4.20 Behind the Bike Sheds. Part one of an eight-episode comedy series looking at life at the fictional Fulley Comprehensive school. 4.45 The All Electric Amusement Arcade. The penultimate episode and the group decide to make a video. 5.15 Duffell's News. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Help! Viv Taylor. Viv Taylor's Regina Doller from the organization Crisis Counselling for Alleged Shoplifters. 6.35 Crossroads. It's wedding bells time as Adam Chance and Jill Harvey plight their troth. 7.00 Name That Tune. The first of a new quiz series presented by Tom O'Connor in which contestants must be quick on the buzzer. 7.30 Coronation Street. Marion and Eddie pre-empt Marion's mother's attempts to organize their wedding. 8.00 Homecoming and Wife. The last in the present series finds Eric impersonating Elvis Presley and, with Ernie, returning to putting on the Ritz. 8.30 Keep it in the Family. Dudley is disappointed that he has not been chosen to sing by the local opera society and he finds painting the scenery is no consolation. 9.00 Reilly - Ace of Spies. This week Reilly finds that his plans to seize power in Russia are thwarted when Lenin is shot. 10.00 News. 10.30 Motorfair '83. Show Taylor, Pam Rhodes and Chris Goffey preview the exhibition opening tomorrow at Earls Court. 11.30 Manx. A case of mistaken identity finds the detective's secretary caught up with the wrong man. 12.25 Night Thoughts from Sam King, a Penetrationist and Mayor of Southwark.



Ann Mitchell and Mary Simmonds: BBC 2.55 pm

BBC 2

- 9.10 Daytime on Two: Technical studies. Presswork. 9.38 Fabrics. 10.10 You and Me. 10.16 Fractals. 10.38 Trigonometry. 11.00 Words and Pictures. 11.17 Vocal Sounds. 11.39 Who is Big Brother? 12.05 Italian conversation. Lesson five. 12.30 For parents of mentally handicapped children. 12.55 Brian Rix with another in the series designed to help moderately handicapped young adults. 1.10 Micro in schools (ends a 1.35). 1.38 Messages. 2.01 Watch! 2.18 Travel reading. 2.40 Episodes out of Hungry Times. Close-down at 3.00. 5.35 News summary with subtitles. 5.40 Wildlife on Two. An examination of the life of a small insect known as the Bulldog. The narrator is David Attenborough. 6.05 Eight Days a Week. Robin Draper reviews the week's rock and pop news and the latest releases with Andy Summers, Ian Dury and Marj Wilson. 6.30 Great Railway Journeys of the World. Brian Thompson on the '88 Down Madras Mail' through southern India. 7.35 Discovering Hedgehog. David Streeter and Rosamond Richardson discover the delights of the English countryside in October. They witness a hedge laying competitor; examine the habits of some of the smaller creatures of the hedgerows; and prepare Christmas treats with the last of the hedgerow in fairs. 8.00 Brass Tacks Reports. The first in a new series and an 81-year-old grandmother turns investigator for the programme when she books a room at a rest home for the elderly to find out the weaknesses in the control of such establishments (see Choice). 9.00 Butterflies. The final episode of the domestic comedy series and Fiona is beginning to realize that her sons are soon to leave home and husband Ben is toying with the idea of renewing an old love affair. Can she make one last bid for freedom? 9.30 George Fennel and the Blue Flames. The second of two concerts recorded at the Queen's Theatre, London, and played by Pinchas Zukerman and Marc Neberg. 10.05 Options. John Gore, former editor of The Times Literary Supplement, talks about Marxism and democracy. 10.35 The Willing Victim. A British-made film about the head of the Cheuchins family who discovers that a clinic set up by the American Peace Corps is being used to sterilize the women in an attempt to control the birthrate. Directed by Jorge Sanjinés. 12.00 Close-down.

CHANNEL 4

- 5.00 Countdown. Another edition of the fast-moving words and mental arithmetic competition. Changing the incumbent champion Patricia Bowles of Stockport. 5.30 Make it Pay. The final programme of the series in which Stephen Adobson examines ways in which crafts and hobbies can be turned to financial gain. This week he explores the skills needed for wood-turning and resin casting - hobbies that involve little financial outlay. With him in the studio is Angela Fox who has sound advice on simple bookkeeping for those thinking of starting a small craft business. 6.00 Square Pegs. American comedy series about the pupils of Weemawee middle school. This week Lauren and Patty stand firmly behind their classmates who are in danger of losing his job because of his unorthodox teaching methods. 6.30 The Spice of Life. Curry Around the World examines the global influence of the '88 Down Madras Mail' as illustrated as Salman so Curry in Paris; curry in Sri Lanka; curry in the Pacific; and, Singapore; curried goat in Jamaica; curried chicken in Bali; and from England, Coronation Chicken curry. 7.00 Channel Four News. 7.50 Comment. Filling the political gap this week is the Labour MP for Pochin, Harriet Harman. 8.00 Brookside. Sheila is furious as she demands the straight at the factory. 8.30 Twenty Twenty Vision: The Trial of Carol Compton. A documentary about 20-year-old Carol Compton, a Scottish nanny who is in an Italian jail awaiting trial for the attempted murder of a three-year-old child in her care and the charges of arson. Branded as a witch in Italy, it is thought that the firm may have been caused by the paramour. 9.00 The Violin and Viola Sonatas. The third and last programme in the series deals with the Opus 120 Viola Sonatas. Originally written for the clarinet they were arranged for violin and viola by Britten himself. They are played by Pinchas Zukerman and Marc Neberg. 10.05 Options. John Gore, former editor of The Times Literary Supplement, talks about Marxism and democracy. 10.35 The Willing Victim. A British-made film about the head of the Cheuchins family who discovers that a clinic set up by the American Peace Corps is being used to sterilize the women in an attempt to control the birthrate. Directed by Jorge Sanjinés. 12.00 Close-down.

CHOICE

- A new series of the successful ROUGH JUSTICE (BBC 1 9.25 pm) begins with an up-date of the cases investigated in the first series. 18 months ago. It makes disturbing news. Of the three investigations, which to the layman and to some legal experts cast sufficient doubt on the guilt of those convicted, only Michael Dwyer and his son Patrick, found guilty of the murder of Michael's brother, are out of prison and then only on parole. Rough Justice's reporter, Martin Young and his team painstakingly tracked down further witnesses which point moderately handicapped and the man's being wrongly investigated - that of Jock Russell, who has so far served eight years in jail for a murder he would have found physically impossible to commit, it to have an appeal.
- A no-doubt bruised and probably battered Roger Cook returns this evening with another series of his weekly investigative programmes CHECKPOINT (Radio 4 7.20 pm). His previous series has unearthed many a villain who has duped a glib public and, if Mr Cook's success rate continues, he will have a handful more sleeping less soundly over the next few weeks.
- Hearing in December, thanks to Rough Justice while John Waters, sentenced to four years' imprisonment for the assault of a young girl on a train, has been commuted to Broadmoor, a certain victim of mistaken identity who found the strain of insanity in incarceration too much. Over the next three weeks further cases of possible wrongful imprisonment are investigated and if they are as minutely researched as the trio in the first series then they, too, will reveal woeful miscarriages of justice.
- BRASS TACKS REPORTS (BBC 2 8.00 pm) begins a new series with a new reporter - Jessie, an 81-year-old great grandmother who lived incognito for a week at a seaside old people's home. Her report forms part of an investigation into the boom in the private old people's home business, stimulated by the Government's decision to plough millions of pounds of taxpayers' money into privately run homes. The report also reveals a worrying shift in position by the Government as to who should look after the aged.

Radio 4

- 5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 News Briefing. 6.25 Shipping. 6.50 The Six O'Clock News: Financial Weather; Programme News. 6.55 The Top of the Form. Durham School V Conyers School, Yarm. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint (new series). A weekly investigation into "Sneaky" products for the day. 7.45 I Couldn't Talk So I Cried. David Crystal presents an account of the life with the Lid Off. Elizabeth Injured Children (AFASC). 8.15 In Business. With Peter Hobday. This Reminds Me. In the 1930s, the soprano Elizabeth Soderstrom chooses music to accompany her questions to Geoffrey Smith, Clay Jones and Dr Stefan Buzacki. 8.30 The Secret Shanty by Joseph Conrad. Read by Edward Fox. 8.57 Weather; Travel. 9.00 Midweek Henry Kelly. With Lily Purves and guests. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 News. 4.10 News. 4.15 News. 4.20 News. 4.25 News. 4.30 News. 4.35 News. 4.40 News. 4.45 News. 4.50 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.05 News. 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Kinnock fears right swing in Mirror sale

By Barrie Clemet, Labour Reporter

The Labour Party executive is expected to demand meetings with Reed International over its proposed sale of Mirror Group Newspapers and in particular the *Daily Mirror*, the only national daily to back the party in the June election.

In private talks with senior editorial executives at the paper, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, has expressed grave concern over the possibility of a swing to the right in the paper's political philosophy after the flotation.

Mr Michael Meacher, a member of the national executive's media study group, has written to the company and will raise the subject in the Commons when parliament resumes next week.

Reed made clear yesterday that despite short-term assurances about the paper's character there could be no long-term guarantees. There could be no legal impediment to a takeover bid.

It seemed last night that even one of the short-term pledges may not be fulfilled to the satisfaction of Labour. The company made it known originally that the chairman of the newly floated company would be acceptable to both the Labour movement and the City.

But a senior source at the *Daily Mirror* said the new chairman, unnamed but already appointed, had no ostensible links with left-wing politics.

"We were looking for a man who was acceptable to banks and other City institutions and that is what he has got. His politics did not come into it," the source reported.

Labour's new executive is to meet next Wednesday and the

Daily Mirror sale will undoubtedly provoke some anxiety. Mr Leslie Carpenter, chief executive of Reed International, told *The Times* that the only guarantee that the *Daily Mirror* would retain its political flavour lay in the traditional attitude of the staff and management. Any attempt to move the paper to the right would be met with strong opposition, he thought.

He disclosed that the paper's senior management had rejected suggestions that there could be guarantees on similar lines to those accepted by Mr Rupert Murdoch in 1981 when he took over *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. Those assurances included the appointment of independent national directors with specific powers. Reed had promised to float off the *Mirror* Group in a form that would be acceptable to the labour movement, although that is where the responsibilities would end.

Under proposals being studied the board of the new company would be made up of the present *Mirror* group directors and the new chairman, whose identity is expected to be revealed within the next seven days, and two non-executive directors, possibly with left of centre sympathies.

The new company's vulnerability to take over is also of concern to the TUC's printing industries committee which will be meeting later this month.

Mr Meacher, a prominent member of the Campaign for Press Freedom, yesterday sent a letter to Sir Alexander Jarratt, chairman of Reed International, expressing concern over the intended sale.

Mr Meacher, a prominent member of the Campaign for Press Freedom, yesterday sent a letter to Sir Alexander Jarratt, chairman of Reed International, expressing concern over the intended sale.

massive media and advertising campaign. Extensive work has already been done on campaign strategy. As in 1980 it will be built around Mr Reagan, who remains a popular personality and a pre-eminent communicator. In 1984, however, his campaign staff will also be able to exploit the formidable powers of incumbency. As President, Mr Reagan can command instant national attention and use his position to control and dominate the political debate.

Leading article, page 13

Inevitable change in the face of British seaside holidays Butlin's closes camps at Clacton and Filey

By Thomson Prentice

The closure of Butlin's holiday camps at Clacton in Essex, and Filey, in North Yorkshire, announced yesterday amounts to more than a black day for loyal redcoats. Their demise marks the inevitable surrender to social change; two names on the map will have lost much of their meaning.

"These two centres are no longer viable, and regrettably, must be closed", Mr Bobbie Butlin, the chairman and son of the late famous founder, said. Sir Billy died in 1980, having retired in 1968, when the tide was already turning against his holiday camps.

In his day families went to the seaside or the fairground. He combined both attractions and opened his first camp at Skegness in 1936 from the profits of a hoop-la stall. It was opened by Amy Johnson.

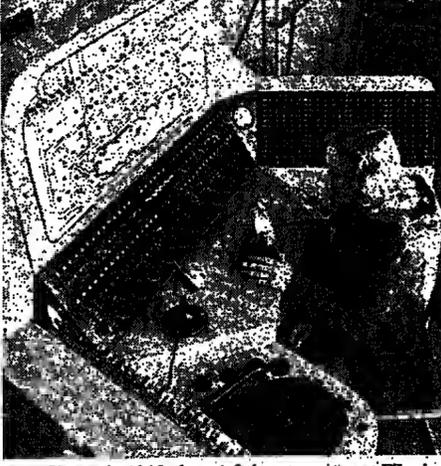
The Clacton camp was built in 1932. Work on Filey was postponed because of the war, and the Ayr and Pwllheli camps were constructed instead. The Admiralty gave Butlin the contract to put up naval accommodation. Butlin's bought the sites back when the war ended.

"The reason for my success is the weather", he once said. "When it is cold and wet I provide things for people to go indoors". But of course, holidaymakers discovered that it is seldom wet or cold in Spain in summer, and flocked there instead in the package-deal days of the sixties.

Butlin sold his camps to the Rank Organization in 1968 for £44m. The previous year turnover at the camps was down for the first time, profits were lower for the second consecutive year, and 100,000 fewer people had booked into his chalets.

His son Bobbie took over responsibility of the camps on behalf of Rank. Sir Billy retired with dignity to Jersey. The camps were renamed "main centres" and the loud-speakers blaring "Wakey wakey" and "Good morning campers" were disconnected. The stampedes at meal-times were replaced with self-catering accommodation.

Plans were announced, in 1981, for a £20m expansion programme including hotels in Torremolinos. Butlin's arch-rival, Sir Fred Pontif, had also realized that the traditional holiday camps were doomed. As Pontifential he snapped up prime sites on Sardinia's Costa Smeralda. He revamped his British camps,



Happy days at Butlin's: Top, rapt audience for a diving display at Clacton in 1946; above left, beauty contest at Filey in 1953; above right, "Wakey wakey" call at a camp in 1946.

saying "In the motor age, you don't want communal feeding". The closure of Filey and Clacton is not the end for Butlin's, as Mr Bobbie Butlin said yesterday. "It will have the effect of enabling us to strengthen our total business. About 60 people at both centres are likely to be made

redundant. He added that more than one million people took their holidays at Butlin's this year. The first Butlin's camp at Skegness offered a week's holiday for just £2, including meals. Today, in high season, a family of four would pay just over £200.

The 240-acre camp at Filey could cope with almost 11,000 guests at its busiest, with 1,100 seasonal staff and 100 permanent staff to cater for them. The Clacton camp, on 45 acres, could accommodate 6,000 holidaymakers, with 840 seasonal staff and 96 permanent employees.

Butlin's entertainment is still basically the same: a variety of exotic bars, cabaret, a ballroom with a 12-piece band, numerous talent and beauty contests, organized games for children, and the ubiquitous redcoats striving to ensure that a good time is had by all.

Gummer is given pay rise for same job

Continued from page 1

Defence. Mr Stewart served previously as parliamentary private secretary to Sir Geoffrey Howe at the Treasury.

Mr Moore, whose new responsibilities include taxation, and Mr Stewart, who takes on monetary policy and privatisation, add to the Chancellor's hard-line economic views.

The only backbench promotion is the appointment of Mr John Lee as the replacement for Mr Stewart.

Mr Lee, MP for Fendle and parliamentary private secretary to Mr Parkinson until his resignation, is a chartered accountant. He will have responsibilities for defence procurement and equipment.

The final change is the promotion of Mrs Lynda Chalker, from Under Secretary to Minister of State at the Department of Transport.

Mr Gummer's pay rise was criticized by Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Crick, Clarendon and Doon Valley, (the Press Association reports).

"I am tabling a question to the Prime Minister for answer when the Commons return next week, asking her how she can justify the taxpayer having to foot the bill for what is effectively a political job," he added.

Navy order for new type of anti-sub frigate

Continued from page 1

architects based at Brimbridge in the Isle of Wight. Thornycroft Giles and Associates, who challenged the entire naval establishment with claims that its short fat design - the S-90 - would meet the Navy's needs better than Type 23.

But Mr Stewart said yesterday that the S-90 would not have achieved the reduced noise levels needed, lacked sufficient space, and did not meet requirements on speed and endurance.

Freeze rejected: A mass meeting of 1,300 shipyard men in Southampton yesterday overwhelmingly rejected a wage freeze plan by British shipbuilders. The men, who work for Vosper Thornycroft, also rejected demands for 2,000 redundancies in the industry and change in working practices.

Reagan men start work

Continued from page 1

former Secretary of Transportation, is to run the "National Strategy Committee" and is expected to become campaign manager next year.

Mr Ed Rollins, the President's political adviser, and his deputy, Mr Lee Atwater, have left their jobs at the White House to work full time on the campaign. They have hired three part-time consultants - Mr Lyn Nofziger, Mr Charles Black and Mr Robert Tetter, all veterans of 1980 - to set up a

massive media and advertising campaign.

Extensive work has already been done on campaign strategy. As in 1980 it will be built around Mr Reagan, who remains a popular personality and a pre-eminent communicator.

In 1984, however, his campaign staff will also be able to exploit the formidable powers of incumbency. As President, Mr Reagan can command instant national attention and use his position to control and dominate the political debate.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen attends the Annual National Service for Seafarers at St Paul's Cathedral, 5.55.
Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Transport, visits 20 Squadron at Regent's Park Barracks, London.
Princess Alexandra opens the Burlington House Fair, the Antique

Dealers' Fair, at the Royal Academy of Arts, W1; 3.

New Exhibitions
Light an exhibition of oil paintings at the Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield, Mon to Sat 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Nov 13).
Hospitalfield Summer School 1983: exhibition of work by the students at the Crawford Gallery, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Perth Road, Dundee, Mon to Fri 10 to 4 (ends Nov 2).

Last chance to see

Hangings by Theo Mooreman; ceramics by Nicholas Homoky; perambles by Nick Andrew; and Private Mythic ceramic sculpture by Pauline Fowler, Oxford, Friday, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends today).

Music

Concert by Martin Hughes (violin), Martin Shillito (horn) and Alan Fearon (piano), Museum & Arts Centre, Durham.
Concert by the Budapest Trio, Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museum, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, 7.30.
Concert by the Bourne-mouth Symphony Orchestra, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.
Concert by the Beas, Wigwags, Band, Carnegie Hall, Westhoughton, 8.
Gala Silver Jubilee Concert by the Northern Sinfonia of England, Parish Church, Stockton, 7.45.
Piano concert by Sofia Cosma, Leeds Institute Gallery, Civic Theatre, Cookridge Street, Leeds, 7.30.
Concert by the Consort of Musick, the Derby Hall, Market Street, Bury, 7.30.

Talks and Lectures

Gaudier-Brzeska and Vorticism, by Dr Richard Cork, Kettle's Yard Gallery, Northampton Street, Cambridge, 8.15.
Exploration of Five Continents by I. T. Bunyan, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.
A rambler's history of the Dewar and Woodlands visited by J. Byford, Highfield Library, London Road, Sheffield, 8.15.
Sea Water and the Spring, by Dr G. Kellaway, Banquetting Room, Guildhall, Bath, 11.0.
Preserving Buildings, by Jennifer Cossigan, Corinium Museum, Cirencester, 7.30.
Cardiac Pacemakers: today and tomorrow, by Dr M. J. Stain, MRCP, Large Lecture Theatre, Poynting Building, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, 11.
An introduction to Fungi, by Robert Taylor, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Newcastle, 1.45.

General

Annual Autumn Fair, Church Rectory, Old Churchyard, Liverpool, 10.30 to 3 (and 20th Oct).
Norfolk Real Ale Festival, St Andrews Hall, Norwich, open 11 to 2.30 and 6 to 11 (until Saturday).

Exhibitions in progress

The Elements of Industry: Water, at the Torrance Gallery, 29B Dundas Street, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 11 to 6, Sat 10.30 to 1 (ends Oct 22).
The Elements of Industry: Water, at the Museum and Art Gallery, Kirkcaldy, Fri, Mon to Sat 6, 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends March 1984).
Built in Scotland: work by 10 sculptors at the City Art Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Nov 12).

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
Christian England, from the Reformation to the 18th century, by David L. Edwards (Collins, £12.95).
Frank Johnson's Election Year (Penguin, £8.95).
Richard Hurdle (Routledge and Kegan Paul, £14.95).
Greek Monumental Bronze Sculpture, by David Finn and Caroline Houser (Thames and Hudson, £18).
Networks, who we know and how we use them, by Tim Heald (Hodder, £8.95).
Piper (Chico and Windus, £12.50).
Sweet and Sour, an anthology of Comic Verse, edited by Christopher Logue (Penguin, £8.95).
Idea from the Hollywood Raj, the British Film Colony on Screen and off, by Sheridan Morley (Walden and Nicolson, £10.95).
The Thrust into the Soviet Military Machine, by Andrew Cockburn (Hutchinson, £8.95).
Wodehouse Nuggets, selected by Richard Usborne (Hutchinson, £8.95). PH

The papers

The *Daily Mirror* contrasts the style of Mr Callaghan and Mrs Thatcher on the subject of Russia. It says that since she became Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher has never been to the Soviet Union, nor have her foreign ministers. "Only a month ago Mrs Thatcher was presenting herself as the Cold War ice maiden. She has thawed since then. But not much. She still shouts at the Russians when she should be talking to them. When Mr Callaghan announced that he would visit Moscow, the Tories attacked him for agreeing to go into the bear's den. But he is treading the path that Mrs Thatcher should be walking." It adds that Mrs Thatcher has a reputation for not listening. "She should not apply her standards to Mr Andropov. Mr Callaghan's reputation is as a conciliator. If he achieves nothing else in Moscow, he can show the Russians that not all senior British politicians are the same."

Roads

London and South-east A41: Traffic signals all day in Berkhamstead, Herts. A219: Stop/go boards off peak in Wimbledon Parkside. A26: Auto signals but no diversion for telephone work in London Road, Southborough, junction with Bidborough Ridge (B2176).
Midlands A47: Single-line traffic on Kings Lynn-Swaffham, Norfolk Road 2 miles east of Northburgh. A51: Temporary lights on bridge over M6 near Stone, Staffordshire. A54: Delay in Henley in Arden High Street.
North A1 (M): Contrailow due to resurfacing of northbound carriageway inside lane, Blyth (Notts/Yorks border). A523: Diversion north of Macclesfield, Cheshire. A607: Outside lane closed in each direction at Hyde, Greater Manchester.
Wales and West A494: Temporary lights at Theatre Clwyd, Mold, Clwyd. A39: Temporary lights in Wakebridge on Wakebridge Road, Cornwall, and along St Columb's pass. A399: Lane closures at Three Milestone by-pass, stop/go boards in use at Gramppond Village.
Scotland: M8: Outside lanes of both carriageways closed near junction 12 (Stirling). A76: Single line traffic with lights south of A719 junction near Kilmacross, Ayrshire. A99: Contrailow on northbound lane, on Forth Road Bridge; only one lane off peak, allow extra time.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.70	1.62
Austria Sch	28.50	26.50
Belgium Fr	83.00	79.00
Canada \$	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.58	13.88
France Fr	12.20	11.70
Germany DM	4.01	3.82
Greece Dr	159.00	142.00
Hongkong \$	12.85	11.45
India Ru	99.00	92.00
Italy Lire	2435.00	2325.00
Japan Yen	365.00	347.00
Netherlands Gld	4.52	4.29
Norway Kr	11.37	10.80
Portugal Esc	194.00	183.00
South Africa Rd	1.53	1.70
Spain Pta	231.00	223.00
Sweden Kr	12.10	11.53
Switzerland Fr	3.27	3.10
USA \$	1.54	1.49

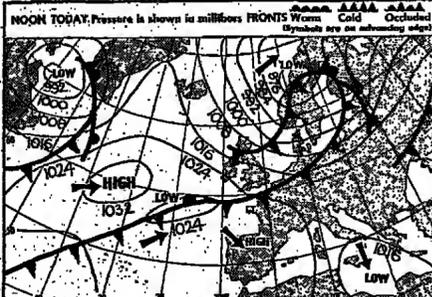
Retail Price Index: 339.5
London: The FT index closed up 0.6 to 678.2.

Weather forecast

A trough of low pressure over Southern England will move away southwards introducing a showery northwesterly airstream to all parts.

Gam to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, East Angles, Channel Islands: Cloudy with rain at times, becoming brighter and drier later; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 12 to 13C (54 to 55F).
E, W Midlands, S Wales: Fast early, then periods of scattered showers developing; wind W fresh or strong; max temp 10 to 11C (50 to 52F).
E, central N, NE England: Sunny periods; showers developing; wind W strong; max temp 10 or 11C (50 to 52F).
N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals and blustery showers, some heavy, especially on coasts and hills; wind NW strong or gale; max temp 10 to 11C (50 to 52F).
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Blustery showers and some longer outbreaks of rain; also some sunny intervals; wind NW strong or gale; max temp 9 or 10C (48 to 50F).
Aberdeen, central Highlands, Orkney, Shetland: Blustery showers wintry on hills, with some hail and thunder, some heavy; wind W strong or gale; max temp 10 to 11C (50 to 52F).
Check for tomorrow and Friday: Showers dying out, becoming less windy with frost at night, but cloudier in N and W.
SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Strath of Dover - English Channel (E, W): west backing SW, strong to gale, moderating sea rough, moderating later. St. George's Channel: West W strong or strong, locally gale at first, becoming moderate; sea rough becoming moderate. Irish Sea: Wind W strong, locally gale at first sea rough.



High tides

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.18	6.5	1.22	6.4
Aberdeen	12.22	5.8	1.24	6.0
Belfast	10.34	3.1	10.42	3.3
Cardiff	1.52	1.8	8.28	1.0
Doverport	5.02	4.8	5.18	5.2
Dover	10.28	1.1	10.49	6.6
Falmouth	4.52	4.7	4.43	6.0
Glasgow	12.12	4.5	12.26	4.5
Hull	11.14	5.8	11.40	5.3
London	5.37	6.8	6.15	6.8
Manchester	1.57	6.0	1.58	6.1
Lith	1.51	4.3	2.21	5.0
Liverpool	10.45	5.5	10.57	6.0
London	11.18	4.4	11.24	4.4
London	11.41	5.3	11.47	5.3
Newquay	4.54	6.2	4.48	6.5
Oban	5.27	5.5	5.32	5.9
Perthshire	11.41	5.3	11.47	5.3
Portsmouth	6.18	1.9	6.26	2.0
Portsmouth	11.03	4.3	11.13	5.7
Southampton	10.40	4.2	10.43	4.1
Swansea	1.18	6.2	1.19	6.3
Tyne	2.48	4.3	3.28	5.0
Wolverhampton	11.07	5.8	11.25	5.9

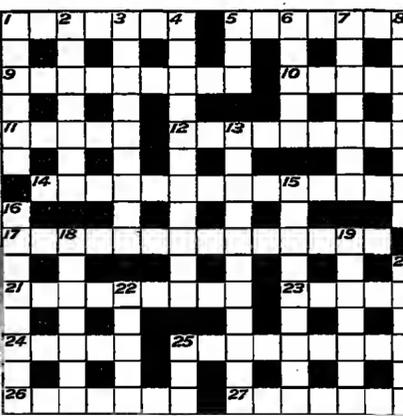
Around Britain

City	Sun	Fri	Sat	Cloud
St Andrews	1.2	15	89	Cloudy
Cardiff	0.1	13	89	Cloudy
Dundee	0.4	16	89	Sunny
Edinburgh	2.1	17	85	Cloudy
Exeter	4.8	16	89	Sunny
Glasgow	1.8	17	89	Sunny
London	1.7	18	81	Cloudy
Manchester	1.9	17	89	Cloudy
Newcastle	1.8	18	81	Cloudy
Nottingham	1.7	17	81	Cloudy
Perth	1.5	18	81	Cloudy
Portsmouth	1.1	14	81	Cloudy
Sheffield	2.3	18	81	Cloudy
Southampton	0.5	15	89	Cloudy
Swansea	1.8	18	81	Cloudy
Torquay	1.8	18	81	Drizzle

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 sun to 8 pm, 10C (50F); min 0 to 8 pm, 11C (52F).
Today: Temp: max 8 sun to 8 pm, 10C (50F); min 0 to 8 pm, 11C (52F).
Highest and lowest: Yesterday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay 18.0 (54F); Lowest day temp: Llanelli 11.0 (52F).
Today: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay 18.0 (54F); Lowest day temp: Llanelli 11.0 (52F).
Sunrise: 6.52 am; Sunset: 5.23 pm.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,264



ACROSS
1 One of a sharply opposed pair (7).
5 What a Hungarian may hand round at table (7).
9 Crazy US bidders paid this (9).
10 Aggressive consumer on the line? (5).
11 Lancing and Harrow initially provide cultivation (5).
12 Make face clean, then remove growth (3,3,3).
14 Sort of stoppage he deals with irritates the nose (7-7).
17 Kind of communication not subject to jamming (5-3-6).
21 Tense, as seconds are (9).
23 Girl dispenses of a landmark in Idington (5).
24 Puts in, or takes out, creases (5).
25 Prom in entertaining first half is outstanding (9).
26 But surely a legitimate kind of history? (7).
27 Like the resources of one we can only touch for a bob (7).

DOWN
1 Stayed, we hear, to settle down (6).
2 Having a wet exterior, and narrow too (7).
3 Lots of sub-stuff to reduce public servants? (5,4).
4 Blame screen fault for lack of contrast (11).
5 One awaited who never made entrance without OT idol (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,263